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A P P E A R A N C E S

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, FOURTH
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR
DUVAL COUNTY, FLORIDA.

CASE NO.: 16-2017-CF-539-AXXX-MA
DIVISION: CR-H

STATE OF FLORIDA

vs.

GLORIA WILLIAMS,

Defendant.

-----/

TESTIMONY AND PROCEEDINGS before the
Honorable MARIANNE AHO, Circuit Judge, Courtroom No.
406, at the Duval County Courthouse, Jacksonville,
Duval County, Florida, on Thursday, May 3rd, 2018,
commencing at 10:30 a.m., reported by Sharron A.
McLendon, Florida Professional Reporter.

FILED

MAY 18 2018

D. W. Amell
CLERK CIRCUIT COURT

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P R O C E E D I N G S

3 May 3rd, 2018

10:30 a.m.

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- - -

5

THE COURT: Good morning.

6

MS. JOHNSON: Good morning, Your Honor.

7

THE COURT: Is counsel ready for me to call

8

the case?

9

MR. MIZRAHI: We need to approach on some

10

logistics, Your Honor.

11

THE COURT: Very well.

12

Why don't I just indicate that we're here on

13

the State versus Ms. Williams, 17-CF-539.

14

I'll speak with counsel at sidebar.

15

MS. JOHNSON: Yes, Your Honor.

16

And do we have Ms. Williams coming out?

17

(Whereupon, a sidebar conference was had out

18

of the presence of the court reporter, after which

19

the proceedings were resumed as follows:)

20

THE COURT: Would counsel please re-approach

21

briefly?

22

(Whereupon, a sidebar conference was had out

23

of the presence of the court reporter, after which

24

the proceedings were resumed as follows:)

25

THE COURT: At this time we're on the record

1 in the case of the State versus Ms. Gloria
2 Williams, 17-CF-539.

3 (Defendant present.)

4 THE COURT: If counsel would please enter your
5 appearances for the record.

6 MR. MIZRAHI: Alan Mizrahi on behalf of the
7 State of Florida.

8 MS. JOHNSON: Good morning, Your Honor.

9 Diana Johnson on behalf of Ms. Gloria
10 Williams.

11 THE COURT: And your co-counsel Mr. Lufrano is
12 present as well?

13 MS. JOHNSON: Yes, Your Honor, Matthew
14 Lufrano.

15 THE COURT: Very well.

16 Are there any other attorneys who wish to
17 enter their appearances. I know we have three
18 intervening attorneys, but that was regarding the
19 protective order issue, so I believe you are
20 concluded at this time.

21 Welcome, everyone.

22 We are here for a sentencing hearing.
23 Ms. Williams previously pled guilty on or about
24 February 10, 2018, to two counts; count one is
25 kidnapping, a first degree felony punishable by

1 life. This is what's called a range plea, where
2 there is a minimum sentence and a maximum sentence.
3 In this case the range would be basically the time
4 that she's already served up to a cap of 22 years.
5 In count two she pled to a third degree felony of
6 interference with custody, which would have a range
7 of up to five years.

8 One issue that I did just raise at sidebar
9 with counsel but I wanted to place on the record,
10 is that in reviewing the record in preparation for
11 today's proceedings it occurred to me that I should
12 ask you on the record what gain time or law would
13 apply, given that the time of the subject incident
14 was in or about July 10, 1998. Would it be the
15 same gain time rules or law that apply at this
16 time?

17 MS. JOHNSON: Yes.

18 MR. MIZRAHI: Yes, Your Honor. It is the 85
19 percent rule that was I believe in '95 would apply
20 to this case. The only difference in the law with
21 regard to sentencing was at the time the sentencing
22 guidelines were different than they are today, but
23 the gain time rules are the same as they are today.

24 MS. JOHNSON: Yes, Your Honor. And previously
25 we looked this up, and it's Statute number 944.275.

1 The gain time appears to be the same, 85 percent or
2 10 days a month.

3 THE COURT: Very well.

4 And the guidelines were previously addressed
5 during the plea colloquy, and as a result of the
6 range plea that's been accepted by the Court they
7 really don't apply at this time; is that fair to
8 say?

9 MR. MIZRAHI: Correct.

10 MS. JOHNSON: That's correct. They would be a
11 guide, but they are not mandatory in this case.

12 THE COURT: And at that time there was a
13 different way that the guidelines were structured
14 and there was sort of a minimum and a maximum, like
15 a range?

16 MS. JOHNSON: Yes, Your Honor. There was a
17 presumptive correct sentence and then the Court
18 could deviate either downward or upward by 25
19 percent making that range. If the Court wanted to
20 go further below or above, the Court would have to
21 make written findings at that time to do so, based
22 upon the statutory enumerated conditions.

23 THE COURT: Do you want to just place on the
24 record what those two numbers were, I know we've
25 addressed it previously, or we could do it at

1 another time, but it's really not applicable based
2 upon the negotiated range plea is my understanding?

3 MR. MIZRAHI: That's correct, Your Honor.

4 It's the guidelines we addressed at the plea
5 colloquy, but they're 50.7 months to 84.5 months
6 pursuant to the plea negotiations, both the bottom
7 and the top of those guidelines were waived.

8 THE COURT: By both sides?

9 MR. LUFRANO: That is correct.

10 THE COURT: Very well.

11 That was addressed in detail on the record.

12 At this time I'd like to go over the
13 presentence investigation report. I've actually
14 read it three times, so I'm very familiar with its
15 contents, as well as the letters that were provided
16 through the Department of Corrections. I believe
17 both sides have received these documents?

18 MR. MIZRAHI: Yes, Your Honor.

19 MS. JOHNSON: Yes, Your Honor. And I provided
20 those to the Department of Corrections.

21 THE COURT: Very well, the letters.

22 Thank you so much.

23 So my question is: Does the State have any
24 exceptions, objections or proposed amendments to
25 the presentence investigation report?

1 MR. MIZRAHI: Your Honor, the two degrees of
2 crime are incorrect on Page 1. As you've already
3 indicated, kidnapping is a first punishable by
4 life, and interference with custody is an F3 not an
5 F2.

6 THE COURT: Very well.

7 You agree that those changes need to be made?

8 MS. JOHNSON: Yes, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: So I made those changes by
10 interlineation by hand on Page 1 of the original
11 presentence investigation report.

12 Is there anything further, Mr. Mizrahi?

13 MR. MIZRAHI: Not from the State.

14 THE COURT: Anything further?

15 MS. JOHNSON: Yes, Your Honor.

16 So below that time it says the date of the
17 arrest was January 17th, 2017; however, it should
18 be January 13th, 2017. That was pursuant to an
19 arrest warrant signed by this Court and that's the
20 date that she was arrested in South Carolina. I
21 believe the 17th is when she came back to
22 Jacksonville, but because it was on this arrest
23 warrant she should get credit for that, from the
24 January 13th date.

25 MR. MIZRAHI: Correct.

1 THE COURT: And that change has been made.

2 MS. JOHNSON: I'm sorry?

3 THE COURT: Very well.

4 I made that change.

5 MS. JOHNSON: And the days in custody, it says
6 of today's date, May 3rd, '18, [REDACTED]

7 [REDACTED] versus that 446, I had it at 475,
8 but I know it's either 471 or 445 not 446.

9 THE COURT: Well, to capture all of her time,
10 including her time out of state, should it be 475?

11 MR. MIZRAHI: I have not done the math, Your
12 Honor, but it should be from the January 13th of
13 2017, so whatever that number is. Certainly we can
14 figure that out.

15 THE CLERK: 475, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: 475.

17 MS. JOHNSON: I can do that.

18 THE COURT: Very well.

19 I changed it on the PSI to 475.

20 I do not anticipate imposing sentence today.

21 MS. JOHNSON: Sure.

22 THE COURT: There is going to be a tremendous
23 amount of information provided to the Court today
24 and I'll need time to consider it and digest all
25 that information, so her credit time at the time of

1 imposition of sentence will be higher than the 475
2 days, but we'll consider it as 475 as of today
3 unless that's addressed on the record by either
4 side.

5 MS. JOHNSON: No. And that's fine, Your
6 Honor. We just wanted to make sure that that was
7 correct on the presentence investigation.

8 THE COURT: Thank you.

9 MS. JOHNSON: Your Honor, under description,
10 true name, as we have previously discussed is
11 Gloria Brown Williams.

12 THE COURT: Any objection from the State to my
13 modifying that?

14 MR. MIZRAHI: No, Your Honor.

15 Very well. That's been done.

16 MS. JOHNSON: And as to Page 2, Your Honor, it
17 says [REDACTED] and then it says
18 [REDACTED] I
19 think that guilty should be checked because it was
20 a guilty plea.

21 THE COURT: Very well.

22 That's been done.

23 MS. JOHNSON: And on Page 11, it's a minor
24 change, but under family history, [REDACTED]

25 [REDACTED] not

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[REDACTED]

THE COURT: Very well.

I changed it to CO for Colorado.

MS. JOHNSON: And that's it from the defense,
Your Honor.

THE COURT: Thank you so much.

Do you all want me to file these letters, keep
them with the presentence investigation report, or
do you want them filed in the court record?

MS. JOHNSON: We would ask that they be filed
in the court record as part of the sentencing.

THE COURT: And so would these be just simply
a Court exhibit, these letters? How do you want
them? Are you introducing them?

MS. JOHNSON: We can, we can as a defense
exhibit, Your Honor, we can mark them and admit
them as part of our exhibits.

THE COURT: I just want to make sure that it's
taken properly.

Any objection?

MR. MIZRAHI: No, Your Honor.

MS. JOHNSON: If they're with the PCA -- PSI
then they'll be sealed, so.

THE COURT: Are you asking them to be attached
to the PSI and sealed or would you like them to be

1 filed -- entered into evidence right now as Defense
2 Composite 1?

3 MS. JOHNSON: Defense Composite 1.

4 THE COURT: No objection.

5 MS. JOHNSON: Actually we have --

6 MR. LUFRANO: It will be Defense Composite 5,
7 Your Honor. And I can tell the Court that --

8 THE COURT: Okay. Are you going to enter it
9 as Composite 5 right now?

10 MS. JOHNSON: Yes, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: This is just the letters that were
12 provided with the PSI. I believe both sides have
13 already seen them.

14 No objection from the State?

15 MR. MIZRAHI: No, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: Okay. So we're going to go ahead
17 and address that right now so that everything is
18 current. We'll just introduce it out of order. So
19 Defense Composite 5 is received into evidence
20 without objection by the State.

21 (Whereupon, the documents last-above referred
22 to were received in evidence as Defendant's
23 Composite Exhibit No. 5.)

24 THE COURT: I believe the State is going to
25 present witnesses at this time.

1 Is there anything else you'd like to address
2 before you call your first witness, sir?

3 MR. MIZRAHI: No, Your Honor. I know a lot --
4 well, I will say this, Your Honor, usually we use
5 the podiums a lot in these. I would suggest that
6 we use the witness box, and I've prepared my
7 witnesses to do that.

8 THE COURT: That's fine with the defense? In
9 other words, we won't have anyone just standing and
10 testifying, we'll have everyone seated over here in
11 the witness box.

12 MS. JOHNSON: Certainly.

13 THE COURT: Just so everyone can see and hear.

14 MS. JOHNSON: That's fine.

15 THE COURT: And I do intend to have some
16 regular breaks. There will be a lunch break. I'm
17 also planning tomorrow to start at about 10:30, but
18 let's just see where we go and we'll just take it
19 one step at a time.

20 MR. MIZRAHI: Thank you, Your Honor.

21 The State of Florida calls Charles Manigo to
22 the stand.

23 THE COURT: Good morning.

24 Would you please come forward. Madam Clerk
25 will swear you in, and then after you're sworn in

1 if you will please be seated.

2 OFFICER CHAMBERS: Raise your right hand.

3 **CHARLES MANIGO,**

4 having been produced and first duly sworn as a witness,
5 testified as follows:

6 OFFICER CHAMBERS: Step right over here.

7 Watch your step now.

8 MR. MIZRAHI: May it please the Court.

9 THE COURT: Yes.

10 DIRECT EXAMINATION

11 BY MR. MIZRAHI:

12 Q Please state your name for the record.

13 A Charles Jamie Manigo.

14 Q And how do you spell your last name?

15 A M-A-N-G-I-O.

16 Q Mr. Manigo, do you know Gloria Williams?

17 A Yes, I do.

18 Q How do you know her?

19 A For the last 18 years she had me believe that
20 I had a child with her, yes.

21 Q Did you have an intimate relationship with
22 Ms. Williams back in 1997 going into 1998?

23 A Yes, I did.

24 Q And did you believe that based on that
25 relationship that she had become pregnant with your

1 child?

2 A Yes, I did.

3 Q And when did you learn that that was not the
4 case?

5 A January 12th of last year, 2017.

6 Q And how did you become aware of that?

7 A I got a call from Detective Glenn out of
8 Jacksonville. He actually called me and notified me
9 about a missing child report.

10 Q During the course of those 18 years, did you
11 pay child support?

12 A Yes, I did.

13 Q And what was your regular child support
14 payment?

15 A Regular child support was about 100 bucks. I
16 was actually caught up in arrears, and it actually
17 garnished my wages a few times, I actually was
18 incarcerated for a week or two because I fell behind
19 but, yes, I did pay child support.

20 Q And you did that under the belief that Gloria
21 Williams' child was actually your child?

22 A Yes, I did, sir.

23 Q And did you help raise the person you knew as
24 Alexis Manigo as your child?

25 A Yes, I did. I also named her. Alexis Kelli

1 Manigo came from me, sir.

2 Q And obviously that -- she was named with your
3 last name?

4 A Yes, sir.

5 Q Would you want to tell the Court how this
6 crime and this betrayal has affected you?

7 A For the last year it's just it's been one --
8 one nightmare still going on. No offense to the Mobley
9 family or the Aiken family, of course. It just took me
10 by a storm. You know, for 18 years I've known to have
11 a beautiful child, a beautiful daughter Alexis. She's
12 still, down in my heart, she still is my child. I love
13 her to death. Words can't even explain how I feel, you
14 know, that I'm hurt. You know, there is -- I have
15 memories now, you know.

16 You know, as a father, you look as far as
17 planning the future from graduation and, you know,
18 which I did attend her graduation, but you've also got
19 to plan weddings and, you know, grand -- grandfather,
20 you know. All of that is taken away from me. You
21 know, it's unbelievable pain, unbelievable pain, you
22 know. I mean days -- days I haven't slept. I haven't
23 slept last night on my way down here. Don't even know
24 what to say. Just the betrayal and the hurt, you know.
25 It just it's unbelievable.

1 We have this saying, you know, a parent is
2 not supposed to bury a child and, you know, I lost a
3 child. I mean, this is something I can't get back.
4 It's not materialistic. It's a child. You know, I can
5 never get her back. She's, you know -- I wouldn't wish
6 this on no one, no one at all, sir.

7 Q Do you think that Ms. Williams should pay for
8 the crime she committed?

9 A Most definitely, sir, most definitely.

10 Q Do you have -- and do you have any
11 recommendation to the Court in terms of whether she
12 should receive the maximum according to the plea
13 agreement?

14 A That and then some, for the simple fact, sir,
15 it's just not me, her -- I mean, Alexis is a victim.
16 I'm a victim. The Mobley and the Aiken families are a
17 victim. You know, the monetary part of it, which is
18 nothing, you know what I'm saying, but she defrauded
19 the state of South Carolina. She defrauded the state
20 of Florida. You know, that's monetary, but you can't
21 put a price tag on feelings. You can't put a price tag
22 on what the Mobleys missed, the Aikens missed. I have
23 18 years of happiness of -- you know, they had 18 years
24 or worry, you know what I'm saying? You can't. You
25 can't put a price tag on that, you know, you can't get

1 that back.

2 You know, what I'm going through, I can't
3 even imagine how she felt 18 years ago, but that's how
4 I feel, you understand what I'm saying? You know, when
5 I learned that she was born I was -- I was ecstatic, I
6 was happy, so I'm glad. And when they came -- when she
7 came back into their life, I can understand how they
8 feel. It's just one -- you know, of course, I wouldn't
9 recommend the full max, for the simple fact for myself,
10 the Mobleys, the Aikens, you know, I did nothing wrong
11 in this case, nothing at all.

12 Q Any other feelings or thoughts about how this
13 crime has affected you that you'd like to share with
14 the Court?

15 A It's just hard to trust people. An
16 individual you see every day it's, you know, you're
17 second guessing, you know. Again, this is not a petty
18 crime, you understand what I'm saying? It's not like
19 you're trying to get probation or something like this.
20 This is a crime that, you know, talking to my attorney
21 before and -- a sad one, an attorney, your attorney
22 have to contact another attorney because the case is
23 so -- it's so crazy because no one ever -- no one, you
24 know, you can't -- you can't imagine. You don't know
25 what door to open because no one can answer that, no

1 one can answer that. You understand? You can't go
2 back and say, well, okay, this is the case, you know,
3 you got a prior case and you can't answer it, you know,
4 you just can't.

5 MR. MIZRAHI: Yes, sir.

6 Thank you, Mr. Manigo.

7 That's all the State has, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Thank you, Counsel.

9 You may inquire.

10 MR. LUFRANO: Thank you, Your Honor.

11 May it please the Court.

12 THE COURT: Yes.

13 MR. LUFRANO: Counsel.

14 MR. MIZRAHI: Yes, sir.

15 CROSS-EXAMINATION

16 BY MR. LUFRANO:

17 Q Good afternoon, sir, or good morning.

18 A How you doing?

19 Q Now, Mr. Manigo, I know you testified a few
20 moments ago that, you know, you feel like you've lost a
21 daughter; is that correct?

22 A Yes, I did, sir.

23 Q Okay. And, Mr. Manigo, obviously, you know,
24 Kamiyah, Alexis as you know her, is still alive and
25 well, right?

1 A Yes, she is.

2 Q Okay. And since the time that you've learned
3 about this you've gotten to know Ms. Mobley and
4 Mr. Aiken as well; is that correct?

5 A No, sir.

6 Q You haven't had communications with them?

7 A I just spoke to Ms. Mobley, spoke to
8 Ms. Mobley twice, I reached out to her, spoke to her
9 twice, kept it cordial. You know, I still can't -- I
10 can't imagine her pain, but just kept it cordial. I
11 just wanted to introduce myself to her.

12 Q Okay. But you've reached out, right?

13 A To Ms. Aiken -- to Ms. Mobley, yes.

14 Q Okay. And you agree that Kamiyah, Alexis as
15 you know her, is 18 years old, she's legally an adult
16 now?

17 A Yes, sir.

18 Q Okay. There is no one stopping you from
19 having contact or a relationship with the woman you
20 raised?

21 A No.

22 Q All right. And, obviously, no one is doing
23 anything to take away the great memories that you've
24 had thus far, correct?

25 A It's a two-part question. No one is, but I

1 feel Gloria is. You ever heard of Stockholm Syndrome,
2 sir?

3 Q Well, I don't think this is an appropriate
4 venue to ask the attorney questions, but...

5 A Okay.

6 Q But I think we've gotten your answer,
7 Mr. Manigo.

8 Beyond that, sir, just finally, and I think
9 you already answered this, but you obviously have not
10 been physically harmed by Ms. Williams, correct, as a
11 result of this?

12 A How could she? How could I, she's
13 incarcerated?

14 MR. LUFRANO: Nothing further, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: Anything further?

16 MR. MIZRAHI: Not unless Mr. Manigo wants to
17 say anything, no, Your Honor.

18 MR. MANIGO: No. Just to the Court, again,
19 you have fathers out there that actually -- the
20 standup fathers, you know. Yeah, we separated as
21 far as a couple, but I stayed in contact with her.
22 You know, I have pictures. You know, she was at my
23 house at Christmas. She just -- so many memories.
24 It's something that I just can't cut off at the
25 hip. Do you understand what I'm saying? I love

1 her. That's my daughter. You know, no respect to
2 Mobley or Aiken, but I helped raise this child and
3 it's just sad that, you know, that she had to do
4 something like this. I mean, it's just crazy. I'm
5 just lost for words right now.

6 THE COURT: Thank you very much, sir.

7 We appreciate your time.

8 MR. MIZRAHI: Thank you, sir.

9 Your Honor, the State of Florida is ready to
10 call Rodney McKean.

11 THE COURT: Good morning.

12 MR. MCKEAN: Good morning.

13 THE COURT: If you'll please come forward
14 Madam Clerk will swear you in, and then if you will
15 please be seated.

16 OFFICER CHAMBERS: Raise your right hand,
17 sir.

18 **RODNEY MCKEAN,**
19 having been produced and first duly sworn as a witness,
20 testified as follows:

21 MR. MIZRAHI: May it please the Court.

22 THE COURT: Yes.

23 DIRECT EXAMINATION

24 BY MR. MIZRAHI:

25 Q Please state and spell your name for the

1 record.

2 A It's Rodney McKean. Last name is
3 M-C-K-E-A-N.

4 Q What do you do for a living, sir?

5 A I'm sorry?

6 Q What do you do for a living?

7 A Right now I'm working as a part-time
8 background investigator with the Sheriff's Office.

9 Q And were you previously employed with the
10 Jacksonville Sheriff's Office in a full-time capacity?

11 A I was.

12 Q And how long?

13 A Twenty-five years.

14 Q And were you at one point the cold case
15 detective assigned to the disappearance of Kamiyah
16 Mobley?

17 A I was.

18 Q How long did you work on that case?

19 A About 12 years maybe.

20 Q Can you explain to the Court, were you -- let
21 me ask you this, were you a homicide detective at the
22 time that Ms. Mobley was taken?

23 A I was.

24 Q So did you also work on the case although you
25 weren't the lead detective on the case when it first

1 happened?

2 A Yes, sir.

3 Q Okay. And then you took over as the lead
4 investigator some years later?

5 A Correct.

6 Q Okay. Can you talk to the Court and tell her
7 about how the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office dealt with
8 the abduction?

9 A It was a very dynamic case. Obviously, there
10 is no way to minimize the amount of work that was done
11 on it. We were overwhelmed at the initial onset of it.
12 It required us to use outside agencies. The FBI came
13 to the Sheriff's Office, set up a rapid start program,
14 which is essentially a computer program that's capable
15 of handling thousands of leads. That being said, I
16 think at last count we were close to 3000 leads that we
17 worked on that case.

18 During the initial stages of the
19 investigation, and when I stay initial stages I'm
20 talking the first couple of months, everybody in the
21 office worked on that case. So it required every
22 single detective to abandon whatever they were doing
23 and essentially track down each one of these leads, and
24 when I say track down a lead, I'm talking about to the
25 end, so it required a lot of travel. It required a lot

1 of investigation. During the initial stages all we
2 had, we didn't have much information to go by, so
3 basically essentially every potential suspect had to be
4 explored it its entirety.

5 Aside from the FBI, we also had FDLE. We had
6 the cooperation of Vital Statistics. Essentially,
7 every jurisdiction that we received a lead from,
8 whether it be an FBI field agent or their respective
9 law enforcement office would dedicate their time to it.
10 I know that I myself generated hundreds of pages of
11 investigative supplement reports. There was multiple
12 meetings that occurred with concurrent jurisdictions
13 and also with those multiple organizations so we could
14 work on different avenues to explore. There was
15 flights by me to Miami, Orlando, I went to Maryland.
16 It's hard to minimize the amount of work that was done
17 on it.

18 Q Detective, was this an unusual case?

19 A Absolutely.

20 Q And is it unusual, and thank God it is, that
21 a stranger abducts a child?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Through the course of the investigation, just
24 to do a thorough one, end up pointing or directing the
25 investigation towards the biological mother and the

1 biological father of the child?

2 A At the onset, correct, yes.

3 Q And is that because it's so rare to have a
4 stranger abduction?

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q And did the Sheriff's Office in doing its
7 job, you know, basically point the finger at the
8 biological parents as potential suspects?

9 A Well, I wouldn't say point the finger. We
10 explored every option, obviously tediously went through
11 that material.

12 Q Detective, you've had -- investigated
13 hundreds of cases in your life. How does investigating
14 the abduction of a baby differ from a lot of the cases
15 that you've investigated in your career in terms of the
16 emotional impact it had on you and your fellow officer?

17 A Well, there is a lot of different levels. I
18 mean, number one, it's certainly a bonafide victim in
19 this particular case. That being said, it wasn't
20 someone -- something that the victim did to influence
21 the situation or bring this potential for this to
22 happen. Secondly, dealing with a baby, there was a lot
23 of media pressure on the case, there was a lot of
24 pressure from inside the administration of the
25 Sheriff's Office for answers, for progress, which

1 created a high stress level to try to get things done
2 on it.

3 Q And through the 12 years that you handled the
4 case, were you ever -- case, were you ever able to make
5 progress?

6 A I wrote a lot of reports but, no. We had
7 information, we had, you know, multiple times that we
8 would work different angles but, no, ultimately it was
9 not solved.

10 Q Was that frustrating?

11 A Absolutely.

12 Q Was there a point in time that you thought or
13 at least considered the possibility that Kamiyah Mobley
14 was dead?

15 A Absolutely.

16 Q And was that -- did that -- let me ask you
17 this: Was it the possibility that as time went on it
18 made it more likely that she was dead?

19 A I would say that's a safe assessment. The
20 longer the time went, the less likely it was for
21 recovery.

22 Q Are you able to quantify the amount of
23 resources expended by the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office
24 in terms of the financial value?

25 A No, no. I mean, it would be a lot, I can say

1 that.

2 Q What was your feeling when you found out that
3 Kamiyah Mobley was found?

4 A I was excited, I mean, obviously, very much
5 relieved, happy, thinking that this would never come to
6 fruition, and a lot of that is due to the work of the
7 cold case unit that acquired the case after I left, so
8 it was a good job.

9 MR. MIZRAHI: Thank you, Detective.

10 That's all the questions I have, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: Thank you, Counsel.

12 Any cross-examination?

13 MS. JOHNSON: Your Honor, may we have just a
14 moment?

15 THE COURT: Of course you may.

16 (Ms. Johnson and Mr. Lufrano conferring.)

17 MS. JOHNSON: No questions, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Thank you so much for your time.

19 THE WITNESS: Yes, ma'am.

20 MR. MIZRAHI: Your Honor, the State would call
21 Shanara Mobley.

22 THE COURT: Good morning.

23 If you'll please come forward Madam Clerk
24 will swear you in and then if you'll please be
25 seated.

1 OFFICER CHAMBERS: Raise your right hand.

2 **SHANARA MOBLEY,**

3 having been produced and first duly sworn as a witness,
4 testified as follows:

5 OFFICER CHAMBERS: Watch your step.

6 MR. MIZRAHI: May it please the Court.

7 THE COURT: Yes.

8 DIRECT EXAMINATION

9 BY MR. MIZRAHI:

10 Q Please state your name for the record.

11 A Shanara Lynetta Mobley.

12 Q And, Ms. Mobley, I'm going to have you like
13 kind of move the microphone down.

14 A Okay.

15 Q And make sure that you project. We all heard
16 Detective McKean well. I want to make sure the whole
17 court can hear you when you speak, okay?

18 A Yeah.

19 Q Did you know a woman by the name of Gloria
20 Williams before she was arrested in January of 2017?

21 A No, sir.

22 Q I want to turn your attention back into the
23 late part of 1997 and early part of 1998. How old were
24 you in the late part of 1997, the early part of 1998?

25 A Fifteen.

1 Q And did you have a relationship with a Craig
2 Aiken?

3 A Yes, I did.

4 Q And did you actually fall in love with him?

5 A Yes, I did.

6 Q Can you -- did you become pregnant from your
7 relationship with Mr. Aiken?

8 A Yes, I did.

9 Q What were the first thoughts that you had
10 when you found out that you were pregnant?

11 A I was happy. Like everything was wrong.
12 (Crying.)

13 MR. MIZRAHI: Can I approach the witness, Your
14 Honor?

15 THE COURT: Of course you may.

16 MR. MIZRAHI: She has Kleenex.

17 THE COURT: We take our time in this
18 courtroom. We do not rush in this courtroom. If
19 anyone wants a break, we'll have a break. Let's
20 just pause for a minute, and if you decide you want
21 a break, you can ask and we'll have one. Let's
22 just pause for a minute. No one will be rushed.

23 MR. MIZRAHI: Thank you, Your Honor.

24 BY MR. MIZRAHI:

25 Q Ms. Mobley, there are some Kleenexes in front

1 of you. You can take some and use it. As the Court
2 has indicated, we're all very patient. You just take
3 your time. Whenever you're ready just let me know,
4 okay?

5 A I was real happy because I was -- had been
6 gone through so much in my life and now I was having a
7 baby, and like everything seemed right, everything
8 seemed right, like God was giving me another chance to
9 straighten up, and I had a reason to.

10 Q When you say straighten up, did you find that
11 after you found out you were pregnant that you tried to
12 do better in every aspect of your life?

13 A It was like they say people don't change
14 overnight, but that's not true. I was a teenager and I
15 was running away, I was having fun, and then one day I
16 was just taking a nap on my uncle's floor and I just
17 woke up like I just didn't want to run the streets no
18 more, like I just wanted to do better, and like I was
19 already pregnant. I didn't find out till later I was
20 pregnant, like a few weeks later.

21 Q And did you and Mr. Aiken's relationship get
22 stronger after you found out you were pregnant?

23 A Not at first, but it did like after something
24 binged in his head and was like, oh, I'm about to have
25 a baby, and then everything just went smooth.

1 Q I want to talk about childbirth, okay? Do
2 you remember giving birth to Kamiyah Mobley?

3 A Yes. I was -- I was in the bed and I was on
4 the phone, and I would joke all the time, and I'd be
5 like, oh, my water broke, you know, because what
6 happened was the doctors wanted to induce me at the end
7 of June, but I was scared hearing all the rumors about
8 what they do. I was young, so I'm scared, so I'm like,
9 no, she going to come about on my own when she does.
10 She do everything, based on her own, you know.

11 And in July I'm just laying in the bed and my
12 water busts, well, that night my water bust, and when I
13 got there, you know, I'm sitting in the chair thinking
14 I'm about to have the baby in the chair at the
15 hospital, and then they get me in a room and get me an
16 epidural and I had her that morning.

17 Q Do you remember the moment that Kamiyah
18 Mobley was handed to you and placed on your chest?

19 A The first time she was handed to me I don't
20 remember because I had -- that was my first epidural,
21 so I don't remember the first time, but when they
22 brought her to the room (crying) -- when they -- when
23 they brought her to the room and I held my baby, she
24 was so beautiful. She was so beautiful. She was so
25 beautiful. I just can't wait to take her home and

1 dress her up and show her off.

2 Q Yes, ma'am.

3 Do you remember about how long after that it
4 was that you first met the person that you learned in
5 January of 2017 was Gloria Williams, the abductor of
6 your baby?

7 A Nobody brought my baby in there, she was
8 already in there, but she came in there and told me she
9 was a nurse, and I thought that's what she was. She
10 dressed like one.

11 Q Okay. You're saying the person that took
12 your baby was dressed like a nurse?

13 A Yes, sir.

14 Q And you believed she was a nurse?

15 A Yes, I did.

16 Q And she told you she was a nurse?

17 A She told me, I was the nurse, that they sent
18 her in there to be with me for the day, everyone was
19 assigned to a nurse.

20 Q Can you describe how she was behaving? Was
21 she nice to you?

22 A She was nice. She was real nice. She was
23 real nice, proper tone and everything.

24 Q Was she older than you and seemed like she
25 knew what was going on?

1 A Yes.

2 Q And did you trust her?

3 A Yes, I did.

4 Q Do you remember her ever holding Kamiyah?

5 A I was holding my baby and I was -- I was
6 still weak and I was kind of lowering my baby down, and
7 I -- and she was like, do you need help? I was like,
8 well, can you put her back in the bassinet thing, and
9 she looked like, sure. I mean, she picked her up, she
10 held her and looked at her and smiled and then she put
11 her down, but she kept telling me like, hey, you know,
12 all new babies have to be checked for a temperature, so
13 eventually I'm going to have to take her out of the
14 room to be checked for her temperature.

15 Q Okay. At this point are you still feeling
16 the effects of the epidural and the medicine that was
17 given to you?

18 A No, I'm not.

19 Q Okay. So can you -- are you still weak after
20 the effects of childbirth?

21 A No, sir.

22 Q In other words, are you able to get up and
23 run around if they're doing that?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Okay. So tell the jury -- tell the Judge

1 what happened next. Did this person take your child to
2 go get Kamiyah's temperature taken?

3 A My baby's grandmother came in the room, and
4 she maybe was in the room I could say a good ten
5 minutes, and she just got like -- now that I sit back
6 and think about it, she got anxious and was like, no,
7 it's time to go take the baby to be checked for her
8 temperature, but the way that she did it, now that I
9 think back, she picked the baby up, picked the pacifier
10 up, put the pacifier down and said, well, no, she's not
11 going to need that because I'll bring her right back,
12 but she had this bag, this black bag with her, and when
13 she walked out the room, you know, the baby's
14 grandmother, she jokes all the time and she was like,
15 you don't think she's kidnapping the baby, but I'm not
16 taking it as a joke, that's my first baby.

17 And so I called the nursery and I asked them
18 did they bring Shanara Mobley's baby down there to be
19 checked for her temperature, and they was like, well,
20 no, ma'am, your baby is supposed to be in the room with
21 you. I'm like, my baby is not here. This nurse just
22 told me she's bringing her to be checked for her
23 temperature, and she was like, hold on. I was on --
24 held for maybe two minutes and she came back. No, your
25 baby is not here.

1 So I threw myself down to the floor because I
2 couldn't move, I was still weak. I threw myself down
3 to the door and Velma was trying to stop me, but you
4 can't, no, that's my baby. So I threw myself down to
5 the floor and proceeded to crawl out the room, and when
6 I crawled out the room there was some rails on the side
7 and I grabbed those, but I'm still on the floor, and
8 I'm screaming and I'm hollering and I'm cussing and
9 everybody is standing around like they don't hear me
10 and the woman done walked out of the hospital with my
11 baby.

12 Q Ms. Mobley, I think you may have
13 misunderstood my question before about whether you were
14 still weak as to the effects of childbirth and you said
15 you weren't, but then now you just said you were.

16 A Oh, I'm saying I'm thinking you talking about
17 it's now, the future right now.

18 Q No, ma'am.

19 So I'm saying at the time --

20 A At the time I was very weak, very weak. I
21 mean, she was supposed to be the nurse and she was in
22 there helping me, this -- oh, my God, that woman
23 touched me.

24 Q Yes, ma'am.

25 So, Ms. Mobley, how long was this person in

1 the room with you?

2 A For hours, for hours, six, seven, maybe eight
3 hours. And she preyed on a child and a baby.

4 Q Yes, ma'am.

5 A Would we -- would we be here right now if it
6 was a grown woman? She preyed on a child, and we would
7 not be here if it was a grown woman. She wouldn't have
8 went into a grown woman's room and done that.

9 Q And you're saying because you were so young?

10 A Yeah, because I was young, and she came in
11 and preyed on a child, and that's what she's doing to
12 my child.

13 Q Yes, yes, ma'am, yes.

14 Thank you, Ms. Mobley.

15 Now, Ms. Mobley, when you think back, when
16 you say in hindsight when you think back there is a lot
17 of things that you're like I should have picked up on
18 that, do you have like feelings of guilt that maybe you
19 should have figured this out?

20 A Yes, but I'm not thinking that nobody come
21 and steal no baby, like who, and to happen -- to happen
22 to me.

23 Q Has that bothered you for 18 years that --

24 A It bothers me now.

25 Q Yes, ma'am.

1 A And for her to keep up this circus act like
2 she's the innocent.

3 Q Yes, Ms. Mobley.

4 So let me ask you about those first few weeks
5 after you realized that your child had been abducted.
6 Forgetting the mental side of it all, were you
7 physically still weak from childbirth?

8 A That day?

9 Q No, I'm saying for -- yeah, for the three --
10 two or three weeks after you gave birth.

11 A Yes, because I was stitched up.

12 Q Yes.

13 A Bleeding, breasts down to here (indicating)
14 and don't have nothing or nobody to show for it.

15 Q What did you do about your breast milk?

16 A Everybody said to use cabbage. I didn't. To
17 be honest, my breast milk never left until my last
18 baby.

19 Q So as you're physically recovering, how are
20 you doing mentally as a 16 year old woman that's had
21 your child taken?

22 A Nightmares, self-medicating myself, I just
23 didn't want to be here, thinking about suicide. Every
24 day people got to stay around me all day every day to
25 watch me. Nobody is leaving me unattended.

1 Q Yes, ma'am.

2 Ms. Mobley, did the -- did you feel that the
3 Sheriff's Office and the greater community was blaming
4 you for this?

5 A Could you repeat that please?

6 Q Did you think that the Sheriff's Office, did
7 you feel that the Sheriff's Office and/or the greater
8 community was blaming you, was looking at you as the
9 person --

10 A Everybody, everybody. I was harassed. My --
11 I was -- my hospital bed was punched, punched. Nobody
12 can't take that back. I haven't got an apology from
13 nobody, and people call about money. Who can put a
14 price on somebody's child? If I took it and blew it in
15 Vegas, then where is my baby? Where was my baby?

16 Q People were implying that you did this for
17 money?

18 A Everybody, everybody.

19 Q And was that true, Ms. Mobley?

20 A No.

21 Q Would you have given every dime back for --

22 A Right now.

23 Q -- for five minutes?

24 A Right now.

25 Q Yes, ma'am.

1 So in addition to the loss of your child, did
2 the fact that people were looking at you and blaming
3 you put an additional toll on your physical and
4 emotional well-being?

5 A It did.

6 Q Over the next several months and years, did
7 time heal these wounds?

8 A No.

9 Q Did you feel better?

10 A It doesn't heal now. I'm still hurting.
11 When you're just -- you're reaching out to my child.
12 That is my child.

13 I am your mother, Kamiyah. I am your mother.

14 Q So you're saying like as you sit here today
15 you feel like the defendant, Ms. Williams, still has a
16 hold?

17 A Yes.

18 Q And because of the 18 years she spent raising
19 her?

20 A Yes.

21 My baby have -- the child has her programmed
22 to her phone as mommy.

23 Q And is that hurtful to you?

24 A Yes.

25 Her family reaches out to my baby. I heard

1 my baby on the phone telling them, I'm to my mama's
2 house, and they would still continue on a conversation
3 with my baby. Her own family, like they don't feel no
4 type of nothing. They don't care. Leave us alone.
5 That is me and Craig's child. Leave us alone.

6 Q As a result of this, do you -- did you feel
7 anger? Did you become a more angry person as a result
8 of this abduction?

9 A Yes.

10 Q And did you take that out on people?

11 A A lot of people. I mean, I can't have a
12 decent relationship the last past two years like
13 because I need somebody to take it out on because the
14 person I want to take it out on I can't.

15 Q So you saw a change in your own personality
16 as result of this crime?

17 A Yes.

18 Q And it continues to today?

19 A It's kind of calm, I got my baby, so it's
20 kind of calmed down, but it's not gone.

21 Q Okay. During the 18 years you were without
22 Kamiyah Mobley, was there ever a day that went by that
23 your thoughts did not turn to your child?

24 A I always thought about my baby every day,
25 every day, every day. I would just catch myself riding

1 in the car and just crying, waking up out of my sleep
2 crying, taking a bath crying. I could be doing
3 something with her siblings and I'm crying, and after
4 crying they can say, mama, what, who is it, Kamiyah?
5 All the time.

6 Q Did you ever celebrate Kamiyah's birthday?

7 A Every year, up until her 18th birthday, and I
8 got -- and I got angry at my baby for her 19th birthday
9 because of that woman.

10 Q Can you tell the Judge how you would
11 celebrate Kamiyah's birthday?

12 A Every year we would have a little party, we
13 would do something, if it's going out of town or if
14 it's cooking a big dinner or just, you know, every year
15 we always got a cake. We always got balloons every
16 year. And people would always say, why you won't sing
17 happy birthday, and I thought that was -- that was
18 attacking me because where is she, she's not here for
19 me to sing happy birthday.

20 Q What did you do with the birthday cake?

21 A I would put it in the freezer. Sometimes I'd
22 let it stay in there up to six months. Sometimes I let
23 it stay in there until I buy another refrigerator. It
24 just was there, up there.

25 Q And eventually would you throw away the

1 birthday cake?

2 A The 18th birthday cake, I just threw that
3 away like maybe like three months ago.

4 Q Why did you put the cake in the freezer?

5 A Hoping she could come back and I could show
6 it to her.

7 Q Okay. How did this crime affect your
8 feelings of security? Did you ever feel safe again in
9 those 18 years?

10 A No, like --

11 Q Or for the safety of your children?

12 A I have other kids like, and I had my kids at
13 other hospitals, which they'll put security outside my
14 room. My kids, I barely let them go outside. I don't
15 let them out of my sight, and when I do have somebody
16 watching them, it's somebody that I know is going to
17 trust them with their life.

18 Q Do you think you are overly protective as a
19 mother?

20 A Oh, yes.

21 Q Did you feel the need to keep having
22 children?

23 A It's it was having kids to me was like a
24 drug, like you always try to go back to reach that
25 high, but when I was having my babies I just -- when

1 you hold your baby in your arms, you just don't -- oh,
2 my God. I was just so happy to bring them home. I was
3 just so happy to bring them home. I was like I just
4 got to the point nothing is not going to replace her.
5 Every -- all my kids have their own special place in my
6 heart, so I would never want them to feel like they
7 have to make up because she's been gone.

8 Q Can you describe a little bit how you dealt
9 with Kamiyah's disappearance with your subsequent
10 biological children? Like did you tell them when they
11 first, you know, were able to understand?

12 A No. I told them when they was like maybe old
13 enough to understand. I -- maybe I would say around
14 about maybe seven.

15 Q And what did you say about her, Kamiyah?

16 A I always say, you-all have an older sister,
17 her name is Kamiyah, and I just tell them the story,
18 you know. And I try to -- try to make an example. I
19 was like, you know what stealing is, you know, because
20 I teach them about stealing, my son was bad on it, so I
21 had to make an example out of him, and they was like,
22 yes. I said, well, that's what someone did to your
23 sister, they stole her from me.

24 Q Did you ever hear your kids believe that
25 Kamiyah was actually dead and you had to correct them

1 and say, no, she's --

2 A My -- my son, he would always say that. Like
3 the girls will always be like, oh, we can't wait to see
4 our older sister. My son would be like, I don't know
5 why you keep saying that for, she dead, and I would be
6 like, no, you don't never say that.

7 Q Did you always believe that she was alive?

8 A Always. I'm a mother, and I don't -- I'm a
9 real mother, and you can always feel -- when them
10 mothers get that phone call in the middle of the night
11 or the police knock on their door, they already done
12 had that feeling something was wrong. I never got that
13 feeling.

14 Q I want to go through the names of your other
15 kids and kind of how they're doing, how --

16 A Okay.

17 Q What's the -- after -- Kamiyah is your
18 oldest, what's the next child?

19 A We have LaShawnye.

20 Q And where does she go to school?

21 A Wolfson High School.

22 Q An is that an IP program?

23 A Yes.

24 Q It's a magnet school?

25 A Yes.

1 Q And is that for -- because she's planning on
2 going to college?

3 A Yes. She's earning her college credits while
4 she's there.

5 Q And then your other children?

6 A You have Christopher, he's in fifth grade;
7 Chrisanna is in fifth grade, Darnell-Cookman, which is
8 another magnet school that's actually begging for her;
9 and we have Savannah, she's very smart, and we have my
10 three year old, my baby.

11 Q And what's her name?

12 A Journye.

13 Q Are you kind of a disciplinarian for your
14 kids?

15 A Oh, yeah.

16 Q Are you strict?

17 A Very.

18 Q Are you their friend or are you their mother?

19 A I'm both, but I draw the line because I have
20 that son, he thinks I'm his big sister, so I have to
21 draw that line with him. I have Shawnye, well, she's
22 in high school now, she's feeling boys and, Shawnye, I
23 make her comfortable enough to come and talk to me
24 about everything, you know. Chrisanna, she kind of
25 standoffish, but she -- she -- when she wants her

1 mother's time, she come and lay it on me.

2 Q Sure.

3 A Journye always -- she's with mommy all day
4 every day so. And Savannah, oh, my God, she, oh, my
5 God, she just she gets her mama going. I can be in a
6 bad mood and she puts on my favorite songs. She knows
7 my favorite drink. She goes gets my favorite soda,
8 water. She's like she knows her mommy.

9 Q So have your children provided you joy even
10 through all this heartache?

11 A Oh, my, yes, yes.

12 Q Do you miss the fact that you did not
13 experience Kamiyah's childhood?

14 A She would have had a great time with me. We
15 have a great time now.

16 Q Have you had a -- well, strike that.

17 A I missed, yeah, I missed the first walk, fist
18 word, graduating, prom, I missed all that, but it's
19 always I always try to look at life as always a
20 positive to a negative. Look, I get to be -- and when
21 she gets pregnant, guess what, I get to be the grandma.
22 She go to college, I can get to see her graduate from
23 college, I get to. The future has so much to offer us
24 right now.

25 Q Would you have been proud of Kamiyah if you

1 would have been at that graduation ceremony?

2 A Oh, my God, yes.

3 Q How much would you have cried?

4 A Oh, Jesus. I was like, girl, I feel old now.

5 Like I would be so happy, because I tell all my kids,

6 just please bring me a high school diploma, please.

7 You know, I always drill it into them, you know, just

8 bring me a high school diploma.

9 Q Could you tell the Court what was going on in
10 your mind and your heart the first time you saw Kamiyah
11 after you found out that she was alive and well?

12 A Oh, my God, it was -- oh, it was like one of
13 the happiest -- it was the happiest day of my life,
14 actually one -- I would say one of the happiest days,
15 because every time I give birth I'm on top of the moon,
16 so it was one of my happiest days of my life, and I
17 seen -- I seen me, like I walked into a room and it was
18 just mirrors, I just seen me. I mean, she don't look
19 like me I don't think, but everything about her is me,
20 everything, everything.

21 Q You're talking personality wise?

22 A Everything about her is me. She look at me
23 and she's like -- we was in a -- we was out to eat and
24 she kept looking at me. She was like, mom, that's
25 where I get all that hair from. I'm like, yeah, your

1 mama. Her tone in her voice is me. Her walk,
2 everything is just me.

3 Q And is there -- let me ask you this: Can any
4 sentence that the Judge gives Ms. Williams change the
5 18 years, and it's still going on here today at 19
6 years of age --

7 A There's only one sentence, and I don't think
8 she's eligible for that, I would say death.

9 Q But obviously that's not appropriate for this
10 case. So do you recommend the maximum sentence that
11 the Court can give?

12 A Of course, because I need her away from my
13 child. I wish you could do a no contact order too,
14 because if I got -- if I -- if me and child's
15 relationship can get along, I need her away, far away
16 where she cannot contact my baby, where my baby can't
17 even get to her.

18 Q And is part of the hurt that you're
19 experiencing because a person that did the worse thing
20 that's ever happened to you in your life that that
21 person still has a relationship with Kamiyah, who you
22 love dearly?

23 A You know what, she didn't take my husband, so
24 we're not here for that. She didn't take my husband.
25 She definitely didn't walk in my yard and steal my dog.

1 Just like Mr. Manigo said, she didn't take nothing
2 material. She took a body, a child. Not one time did
3 she apologize for it. She's not sorry. All this,
4 she's making all these assertions, she's making all
5 this about her, and it's not about her. She's not
6 sorry. Never apologized. Right. My baby. You are --
7 I'm still your mother. She's not sorry. So why should
8 we have mercy on her soul?

9 MR. MIZRAHI: Ms. Mobley, that's all the
10 questions I have.

11 Thank you.

12 THE WITNESS: Yes.

13 THE COURT: Thank you, Counsel.

14 MR. LUFRANO: Thank you, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: You may proceed, sir.

16 MR. LUFRANO: May it please the Court.

17 THE COURT: Yes.

18 MR. LUFRANO: Counsel.

19 MR. MIZRAHI: Yes, sir.

20 CROSS-EXAMINATION

21 BY MR. LUFRANO:

22 Q Good morning, ma'am.

23 A Good morning.

24 Q Okay. And if I say anything that causes you
25 to get upset or you need a moment, just take your time,

1 all right?

2 A Uh-huh.

3 Q Okay. And I don't know if Mr. Mizrahi told
4 you but -- and you're doing a great job thus far, but
5 we do need you to give just verbal responses, yeses and
6 noes, or full sentences, just that way our court
7 reporter can take it down; is that all right?

8 A Yes, sir.

9 Q Okay. Thank you, ma'am.

10 Now, Ms. Mobley, obviously you would agree
11 that this has been very hard on you, correct?

12 A Anybody would feel this way if somebody stole
13 their baby, yes.

14 Q Okay. So that's a yes, right?

15 A Uh-huh.

16 Q Okay. And obviously, you know, you've
17 provided testimony that you're a mother and you care
18 very deeply for your child?

19 A I surely do.

20 Q Okay. And would you agree that as a mother
21 or as a parent, you know, it's part of your job to do
22 what's best for your kids?

23 A Of course.

24 Q Okay. And that essentially your kids' needs
25 come before your own as a parent?

1 A Yes, they do.

2 Q Okay. And obviously today Kamiyah is --

3 she's healthy, right?

4 A Of course.

5 Q Okay. And she's obviously here and she's

6 alive, right?

7 A Thank God.

8 Q Okay. And she is educated? She has a high

9 school diploma?

10 A Thank God.

11 Q Okay. But that's a yes, right?

12 A But thank God, yes.

13 Q Okay. And, you know, your daughter Kamiyah,

14 she's -- she's a happy person?

15 A That's just her, that's her personality. It

16 ain't because of what nobody did. She's a happy

17 person. Yes.

18 Q But that is a yes?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Okay. And a little bit earlier you were

21 testifying, and I believe that you mentioned that after

22 you found out you were pregnant with Kamiyah that you

23 and Mr. Aiken's relationship became stronger; is that

24 correct?

25 A Yes.

1 Q Okay. Would you agree that you had ended
2 your relationship with Mr. Aiken by the time you found
3 out you were pregnant with him or with -- with your
4 oldest child?

5 A No. We still -- no. The only time it --
6 it -- I don't think it ended then. Well, yeah, I could
7 say yes, yeah, I could say yes, but it was further
8 along in the pregnancy.

9 Q Okay. So your relationship with Mr. Aiken
10 had ended before you found out you were pregnant?

11 A No, further along in the pregnancy, maybe
12 when I was maybe seven, six, seven months.

13 Q Okay. So your relationship with Mr. Aiken
14 ended before the pregnancy, correct?

15 A Sir, listen, while I was pregnant he wind up
16 getting incarcerated, that's what ended the
17 relationship, because after he got incarcerated the
18 baby got kidnapped, every -- the media, everybody
19 turned us against each other.

20 Q Okay. And so the relationship with Mr. Aiken
21 didn't end prior to giving birth because you were in
22 another relationship?

23 A Sir, I was still with Craig Aiken.

24 Q And, Ms. Mobley, do you remember giving a
25 deposition in the civil case related to the

1 disappearance of Kamiyah?

2 A Yes, somewhat, it was a long time ago, but,
3 yes.

4 Q And that would have been back in 1999?

5 A Okay.

6 MR. LUFRANO: Okay. And, Your Honor, may I
7 approach the witness with a copy of the deposition?
8 It may refresh her recollection.

9 THE COURT: You may.

10 Does Mr. Mizrahi have it?

11 MR. MIZRAHI: I'm sure I do. I'm just not
12 sure why we're impeaching on this matter.

13 THE WITNESS: No, it's fine. No, let him
14 proceed please. It's fine.

15 MR. MIZRAHI: Ms. Mobley would like to see the
16 deposition, so the State has no objection.

17 THE WITNESS: It's fine.

18 THE COURT: Very well.

19 She can see it.

20 MS. LUFRANO: Thank you, Your Honor.

21 THE WITNESS: Yeah.

22 BY MR. LUFRANO:

23 Q This isn't the whole thing but --

24 A No, just show me what you need me to see.

25 Q Yes, it's just going to be these pages, just

1 read them over.

2 A Okay. A girl and a man is different. I was
3 dating a woman, but I was with Craig. That's two
4 different things.

5 Q And keep reading.

6 A Okay.

7 Q And once you've finished reading we'll --

8 A Okay.

9 Q -- continue on.

10 A Okay. You spelled the name wrong though.

11 It's B-E, okay?

12 THE COURT: So nobody else is reading --

13 THE WITNESS: Listen.

14 THE COURT: Can we just --

15 THE WITNESS: Listen to what it says.

16 THE COURT: Just I want to make sure that I'm
17 proceeding pursuant to Florida law and following
18 all the rules.

19 THE WITNESS: Yes.

20 THE COURT: So what happens now is if you'll
21 just read that and remain silent.

22 THE WITNESS: Okay.

23 THE COURT: And then Mr. Lufrano will ask you
24 a question.

25 THE WITNESS: Okay. Ask me.

1 MR. LUFRANO: Just keep reading.

2 THE WITNESS: Okay. You can go on.

3 THE COURT: Just so everyone has the schedule,
4 after this witness' testimony is concluded we'll
5 take a little morning break in a little bit.

6 THE WITNESS: Okay. I see what they're
7 saying.

8 BY MR. LUFRANO:

9 Q We haven't got to all of it. Finish up.

10 A Okay.

11 Q It should be five pages.

12 A Okay.

13 Q Okay.

14 A The same thing I just told you. I just told
15 you that.

16 THE COURT: We'll just pause and then
17 Mr. Lufrano will ask you a question and you'll have
18 an opportunity to answer.

19 THE WITNESS: Yes, ma'am.

20 THE COURT: Thank you.

21 BY MR. LUFRANO:

22 Q And, Ms. Mobley, after having read or
23 reviewed the transcript of your deposition, does that
24 refresh your recollection as to your testimony --

25 A Yeah, but --

1 Q -- you provided in 1999?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Okay. And so at that time you testified that
4 when you found out you were pregnant you were no longer
5 in a relationship with Mr. Aiken, correct?

6 A Correct, but also I seen in that paper as
7 well it stated that after -- while I was in the
8 hospital I stated that me and Mr. Aiken was in a
9 relationship the last time I had talked to him so.

10 Q Okay. And during that same testimony you
11 also testified that when Mr. Aiken was in jail you
12 didn't go visit him, correct?

13 A No, I did not.

14 Q Okay. And, similarly, you testified at that
15 time that you were in another relationship, not with
16 Mr. Aiken at that time, correct?

17 A Yes.

18 MR. MIZRAHI: Your Honor, I'm object -- unless
19 we're moving on, I'm objecting to this line of
20 questioning.

21 MR. LUFRANO: That was all the questions I
22 had.

23 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I object to it too.

24 THE COURT: No. Just a minute.

25 MR. LUFRANO: Just respond to me.

1 THE COURT: We just have to -- we have to
2 handle everything pursuant to the law, and so the
3 attorneys are the ones that have to enter the
4 objections.

5 I hear the objection to be that you object
6 unless Mr. Lufrano is moving on, I hear Mr. Lufrano
7 say he's moving on, so there is no ruling required.
8 We'll just move along.

9 THE WITNESS: Your Honor, can I say something
10 please?

11 THE COURT: No. We have to --

12 THE WITNESS: Okay.

13 THE COURT: We have to have a question and a
14 answer. I understand that you may wish to speak,
15 but I am listening to everything that you and
16 everyone are saying. I'm listening intently.

17 THE WITNESS: Yes, ma'am.

18 THE COURT: But I'll let Mr. Lufrano ask the
19 next question, and Mr. Mizrahi will have the
20 opportunity to ask questions again.

21 THE WITNESS: Okay.

22 THE COURT: But I'm listening very closely.

23 THE WITNESS: Okay. Thank you.

24 BY MR. LUFRANO:

25 Q Now, Ms. Mobley, you testified a little bit

1 earlier that prior to this pregnancy that you were
2 having some issues and life wasn't super stable; is
3 that right?

4 A Yes.

5 Q But you testified, and I believe your
6 testimony was that people can really change and kind of
7 overnight you felt this change come about you and you
8 started doing better?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Okay. And you really became a different
11 person?

12 A Not all the way different, but the things I
13 was doing I was no longer doing. It was still my
14 personality wise.

15 Q No, no.

16 A Yeah.

17 Q But you started doing better?

18 A Yes.

19 Q You started making better decisions?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Okay. And you agree that people can
22 change --

23 A Of course.

24 Q -- over time?

25 A Not everybody. It's not in everybody to

1 change.

2 Q Okay. People can change?

3 A Uh-huh.

4 Q You changed, right?

5 A I -- yeah, me.

6 Q Okay. So people can change?

7 A Do I -- I don't want to answer that question.

8 MR. LUFRANO: Your Honor, we would direct the
9 Court to ask the witness to answer the question.

10 THE COURT: What I would say is your
11 statement -- if you can just ask another question.

12 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

13 THE COURT: You said people can change, that's
14 your question?

15 MR. LUFRANO: That's the question.

16 THE COURT: If there is no objection, you need
17 to answer it.

18 MR. MIZRAHI: Well, I'd like to move on, but
19 she did answer it. She said some people can
20 change. So I think it was asked and answered
21 but...

22 THE COURT: What I would say is, you can ask
23 it again and then we'll see if there is an
24 objection.

25 BY MR. LUFRANO

1 Q Okay. And again, Ms. Mobley, people can
2 change; is that fair to say?

3 A Some.

4 Q And, now, Ms. Mobley, you mentioned that in
5 your testimony that a lot of people blamed you or made
6 statements that you were somehow responsible for what
7 happened; is that fair to say?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Okay. Obviously, Ms. Williams never made
10 those statements to you or to anyone else; is that
11 correct?

12 A She didn't have to. Her actions.

13 Q Okay. And in addition to that you're aware
14 that in this case Ms. Williams entered a plea to these
15 offenses, correct?

16 A To what, a kidnapping?

17 Q Correct.

18 A Yes.

19 Q And interference in child custody?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Okay. And prior to that, obviously, you've
22 been in communication with the State of Florida, with
23 Mr. Mizrahi?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Is that correct?

1 A He's wonderful.

2 Q Okay. And you're aware that as apart of
3 Ms. Williams' plea she specifically stated that neither
4 you nor Mr. Aiken had any involvement in the
5 disappearance of Kamiyah?

6 A Sir, that don't matter. She -- what happened
7 18 years ago when people was drilling us, harassing us,
8 bashing us.

9 Q And --

10 A She -- that doesn't mean anything.

11 Q And, Ms. Mobley --

12 A Why she didn't do it 18 years ago when she
13 stole our baby?

14 Q And, Ms. Mobley, the question was just,
15 you're aware that Ms. Williams made that statement?

16 A Yeah, after 18 years, yes.

17 Q Okay. And it would be fair to say that you
18 haven't been allowed to speak with Ms. Williams at any
19 point during the proceedings, correct?

20 A She took my baby, let's get that
21 understanding, okay?

22 MR. LUFRANO: And, Your Honor, we would
23 just --

24 THE WITNESS: That understanding.

25 MR. LUFRANO: -- object, Your Honor, and ask

1 that --

2 THE WITNESS: She didn't try to reach out and
3 tell me she --

4 THE COURT: Ma'am --

5 THE WITNESS: -- she apologized.

6 THE COURT: Ma'am.

7 THE WITNESS: Yes.'

8 THE COURT: What I would say is there is rules
9 and procedures --

10 THE WITNESS: I know.

11 THE COURT: -- that we have to follow, and I
12 know that it's difficult, but one thing I will say
13 is --

14 THE WITNESS: I just don't understand how he's
15 trying to attack the victim.

16 THE COURT: What I would say is what you need
17 to do is --

18 THE WITNESS: Yes, ma'am.

19 THE COURT: -- listen to the question and then
20 answer it if you know the answer.

21 BY MR. LUFRANO:

22 Q And the question was just, Ms. Mobley, you
23 haven't had an opportunity through this process to
24 actually speak to --

25 A No.

1 Q -- Ms. Williams?

2 MR. LUFRANO: May I have one moment, Your
3 Honor?

4 THE COURT: You may.

5 (Mr. Lufrano conferring with Ms. Johnson.)

6 MR. LUFRANO: And that's all the questions I
7 have, Your Honor.

8 Thank you.

9 THE COURT: Thank you, Counsel.

10 Anything further, Mr. Mizrahi?

11 MR. MIZRAHI: Just briefly I want to clarify
12 with Ms. Mobley.

13 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

14 BY MR. MIZRAHI:

15 Q Ms. Mobley, we're not going to --

16 A I know. Thank you.

17 Q We don't want to go back and talk about any
18 relationships when you were 15 years old, okay?

19 A Thank you.

20 Q But I do want to give you -- so I don't want
21 you to go into that. I want to give you a last
22 opportunity if you want to tell the Court anything
23 about how this crime has affected you and your family.
24 You can have the last word.

25 A My grandmama died. She didn't get to see her

1 first great-grandbaby. My mama is sick and not doing
2 well. I'm still mentally drained from all of this, and
3 it's steady going, steady going, steady going. Like
4 she tarnished my character. People are still going to
5 think what they want to think, because she done that,
6 and there is nothing this Court or nobody can do to
7 change that.

8 Q Can you get those 18 years back?

9 A No.

10 MR. MIZRAHI: That's all the questions I have,
11 Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Anything further, Counsel?

13 MR. LUFRANO: No, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: Thank you --

15 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

16 THE COURT: -- very much for your time.

17 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

18 THE COURT: Counsel, is there anything else
19 you want to address? I'm inclined to have a 15
20 minute -- 10 or 15 minute break?

21 MR. MIZRAHI: The State has one more witness.
22 Obviously we can finish that after the break.

23 THE COURT: Wonderful.

24 Why don't we just be in recess for 15
25 minutes. It's currently 11:36 a.m. Why don't we

1 come back right around ten minutes to noon, 11:50.

2 We're in recess until about 11:50.

3 Thank you.

4 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you, Your Honor.

5 (Whereupon, a short recess was had, after
6 which the proceedings were resumed as follows:)

7 (Defendant present.)

8 THE COURT: Good morning.

9 Please be seated if you wish.

10 We are back on the record in the case of the
11 State versus Gloria Williams. All attorneys are
12 present. Ms. Williams is present.

13 Mr. Mizrahi, you may proceed.

14 MR. MIZRAHI: Your Honor, we can call our
15 witness, and obviously the family will be coming
16 in, but we're going to call Velma Aiken.

17 Ms. Aiken, if you would come up.

18 THE COURT: Good morning.

19 If you'll please come forward Madam Clerk
20 will swear you in, and then if you will please be
21 seated.

22 **VELMA AIKEN,**

23 having been produced and first duly sworn as a witness,
24 testified as follows:

25 MR. MIZRAHI: May it please the Court.

1 THE COURT: Yes.

2 DIRECT EXAMINATION

3 BY MR. MIZRAHI:

4 Q Please state your name for the record.

5 A Velma Aiken.

6 Q And, Ms. Aiken, I'm going to need you to
7 speak up loud so everyone can hear you in the
8 courtroom, okay?

9 A Okay.

10 Q Ms. Aiken, how do you know Shanara Mobley?

11 A By her going with my son.

12 Q Okay. And what's your son's name?

13 A Craig Aiken.

14 Q And you're his mother?

15 A Yes.

16 Q So you are the biological grandmother of
17 Kamiyah Mobley?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Okay. Can you tell the Court, did you show
20 up to the hospital when Shanara had Kamiyah?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Were you in the hospital room right after the
23 birth?

24 A No, not right after.

25 Q When did you get there?

1 A I got there about three o'clock that day,
2 because I had to get my grands, my other grands, and I
3 was waiting on them to get out of school, so that's
4 when I went and checked on her.

5 Q Okay. When you got to the hospital room, was
6 Ms. Mobley alone?

7 A No.

8 Q Who was there with her?

9 A The lady that said -- that took the baby.

10 Q Okay. And did you know that person?

11 A No.

12 Q Can you describe for the Court that lady, the
13 person that took the baby, how she was interacting with
14 you and Shanara and Kamiyah?

15 A Well, when I was going in, she was on her way
16 going out with the baby in her arms, and so I said,
17 where grandmama baby going. She said the baby had to
18 go for a test, they'll be back in 15 minutes. I said,
19 well, grandmama just got here, I need to see my
20 grandbaby, so she moved the little blanket from around
21 the face a little bit and I seen the baby's nose and
22 the mouth. And I said, oh, yes, this is grandmama's
23 baby, I said, because she looks just like my son, the
24 nose and the mouth. I said, how long you said? She
25 said, the baby will be back in 15 minutes. So that's

1 when she in turn was going out the door.

2 Q So is this inside the hosp -- the room?

3 A In the room.

4 Q Okay. And so when she left, did you make
5 comments to Shanara about who she was, the person that
6 took the baby?

7 A No. I said, the only thing I said, I said,
8 because she was dressed like a nurse, and I said, well,
9 how is she a nurse and got a pocketbook on her
10 shoulders, I said, they're kind of real sensitive with
11 you around a baby with germs? She said, oh, yeah, that
12 lady been here all day. I said, you don't -- you don't
13 think that lady is trying to take your baby? She said,
14 no, she done been here and be needing -- nice all day.

15 Q Okay. So then it was shortly thereafter that
16 you-all figured out that --

17 A Okay. After, after I brought it to her
18 attention about the pocketbook, I said, you need to
19 call the nursery and find out what -- what -- what the
20 lady -- which nursery did she took the baby to. So she
21 called two nurseries and they said the baby wasn't
22 there. The one nursery she called told them to call
23 the other one. They said the baby wasn't there. I
24 said, well, you need to call your nurse on duty. So we
25 called the nurse, and when the nurse got there the

1 nurse said -- she said that nurse that was in here,
2 where did she take my baby? She said, a nurse, she
3 said, I thought that was a relative, and that's what
4 got them on the case.

5 Q Okay. Was this traumatic for you and your
6 son and the rest of your family to know that your
7 granddaughter was kidnapped?

8 A Yes. My son was in jail at the time and I
9 called the -- we called -- I told the detective to call
10 the chaplain and let my son know that the baby has been
11 kidnapped. So it was just a -- it was just something
12 else. And then when it got dark, I just really got in
13 hysterics because I felt like it was just too late
14 because it had got dark and they probably wasn't able
15 to see where she went with my grandbaby.

16 Q You're talking about on the day that she was
17 taken July the 10th?

18 A The day, the day.

19 Q So on that day when it got dark you started
20 to despair, to be upset?

21 A Yes.

22 Q How about over the next 18 years, can you
23 describe for the Court your pain as a result of this
24 crime?

25 A It's been -- it's been a hassle, it's been a

1 pain, you know, like getting interrogated by the
2 detectives and the neighbors and people talking about
3 like we took the baby, even though they was talking to
4 me and said they felt like the boy's grandma took the
5 baby, and I told them, well, hey, I'm the boy's grandma
6 and I don't have no baby.

7 So then the detective come to my house.
8 They're looking around with no -- you know, like
9 they're peeping around to try to see do I have any baby
10 or anything and that. I told them, you-all don't have
11 to peep. You-all can walk around my house. You won't
12 find no baby or nothing here. So they interrogated and
13 from the harassing of the people and the detective, it
14 has been -- it has been really aggravating.

15 Q Did you notice a change in your son as a
16 result of this crime?

17 A Yes. He just, you know, he just got -- he
18 get in a little quiet moment and he don't talk very
19 much, he just don't say nothing, because he just didn't
20 know what to say.

21 Q How about the fact that you didn't -- beyond
22 what the police did, how did the -- how did the not
23 knowing what happened to your granddaughter affect you
24 and your family?

25 A Now, that did, that affected me real bad, and

1 then they did go out of town to my -- my sister's and
2 all of that and investigate them, and they just -- I
3 just felt like that they felt like that we had the
4 baby, and at one point I felt like they wasn't looking
5 for my baby, my grandbaby.

6 And then when -- when this other baby got --
7 what's this baby's name that was under the mattress and
8 the boy killed her, they sent the news people to my
9 house. I was sitting on the step and I said, well,
10 they done found that girl, why can't they find my
11 grandbaby, and it just has been just really been real
12 aggravating and I was just so nervous and scared that
13 she was dead. I really did.

14 Q Okay. Can you tell the Court what it was
15 like when you first saw Kamiyah?

16 A Oh, man, talking about a happy, happy day,
17 and it was on Friday the 13th, and everybody say Friday
18 the 13th is a bad luck day, but it was a good luck day
19 for us. I just couldn't rest that night before because
20 the detective came to the house and told her they had a
21 new lead and they needed us to come downtown the next
22 day, and I couldn't rest because I didn't know what
23 they might have found out. I was praying. I said,
24 Lord, please don't let them find her dead, and I prayed
25 to God I want to be able to see what happened to my

1 grandbaby, and God answered my prayer.

2 Q Yes, ma'am.

3 A And Friday the 13th, that was a good luck
4 day.

5 Q Is there anything else you want to share with
6 the Court about how this crime has affected you and
7 your family?

8 A Well, no, it just, it just kind of put us --
9 like Star -- well, Kamiyah, I mean not Kamiyah, we call
10 her Star. She kind of turned on me because she felt
11 like that when the baby was missing she wanted to go
12 down the elevator to find the lady. I said, well, no,
13 you need to stay here because they -- the detective
14 need to talk to you. Where is you going? So she kind
15 of turned on me like I might have had something to do
16 with the baby, missing baby. Her mama came to my
17 house, felt like I had something to do with the baby
18 also, you know, like it kind of put a bad, what do I
19 want to say, a spirit, you know, which we used to get
20 along real good.

21 Q Okay. So you're saying that Ms. Mobley,
22 Shanara Mobley and your relationship was hurt by this
23 kidnapping?

24 A Yes.

25 Q And that's affected you-all's relationship

1 for the last 18 or so years?

2 A Not the whole last 18 because I guess time,
3 over time she felt like she got where she felt like I
4 didn't have nothing to do with it, but when she just --
5 she just kind of turned on me, and friends and all, all
6 kind of conversation hearing about what they're saying
7 and all of that, you know, it's been a -- it's been a
8 headache.

9 MR. MIZRAHI: Yes, ma'am.

10 Thank you.

11 That's all the questions I have.

12 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

13 THE COURT: Thank you, Counsel.

14 Any questions?

15 MS. JOHNSON: No questions, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: Thank you very much for your time.

17 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

18 MR. MIZRAHI: Your Honor, we'll call Craig

19 Aiken.

20 THE COURT: Very well.

21 Hello.

22 If you'll please come forward. Madam Clerk
23 is going to swear you in and then if you'll please
24 be seated.

25 THE CLERK: Please raise your right hand.

1 **CRAIG AIKEN,**

2 having been produced and first duly sworn as a witness,
3 testified as follows:

4 MR. MIZRAHI: May it please the Court.

5 THE COURT: Yes.

6 DIRECT EXAMINATION

7 BY MR. MIZRAHI:

8 Q Please state your name for the record.

9 A Craig Demetrius Aiken.

10 Q Mr. Aiken, before I ask you a series of
11 questions, have you written down some thoughts that you
12 would like to share with the Court about how this crime
13 has affected you?

14 A Oh, yes, I have.

15 Q Do you want to start with that and then we'll
16 go to some questions?

17 A Okay. I can start with this.

18 Okay. My name is Craig Aiken. I am the
19 father of Kamiyah Mobley, her real father. I know you
20 don't -- I know the defendant doesn't know me and I
21 definitely doesn't know her. It was 1998, almost 20
22 years ago, that seems like a long time for some people,
23 but I remember it like it was yesterday, and I still
24 feel like it was yesterday. I know she remembers
25 because it was also the day she kidnapped my daughter,

1 and ever since that day she has destroyed many, many
2 lives for her own selfish reasons.

3 Sometimes I wondered who she was, what she
4 looked like or what she was thinking or what she was
5 feeling as she told my mother that she was taking the
6 baby to get the temperature changed -- get her
7 temperature checked. I wonder how she was feeling as
8 she manipulated a 16 year old child out of her baby.
9 That day that she took Kamiyah she destroyed me and
10 Shanara's lives, changed and altered plans that destiny
11 had for us.

12 I know Kamiyah's mother Shanara has been
13 through many things, but it has been especially hard
14 for me feeling like a victim and a suspect at the same
15 time. Do you know some of the things that people have
16 been saying about me and because -- because of this
17 case?

18 She doesn't feel anything when -- she didn't
19 feel anything when the news talked bad about us and put
20 all our business on TV, all the interviews, all the
21 interrogation I've been through and that's just during
22 the first year she was kidnapped. Do you know what it
23 feels like to have the whole world turned -- turn their
24 back on you for a crime that someone else committed?

25 She probably wouldn't have understand or

1 cared for her own selfish -- selfish reasons. She's
2 not capable of having -- having feelings for other
3 people. She still doesn't understand that Kamiyah --
4 that she's not Kamiyah's mother, and once Kamiyah
5 realizes how she used her for this trial, she wouldn't
6 have -- she wouldn't have to worry how mad I am,
7 because what she has pumping through Kamiyah is lies.
8 What I have pumping through Kamiyah is blood.

9 No matter what I say or what she says today,
10 she will forgive and I will forgive her, because that's
11 what parents do. We don't raise our kids on lies and
12 teach them to manipulate the system. I have watched
13 some of her court appearances and see how she walks
14 into the courtroom smiling and laughing and her
15 hairdos, but today I pray that the Court or the Judge
16 let her know that her crimes are serious and definitely
17 not a joke. It's also like she can't comprehend the
18 damage that she has done and is still doing, doing to
19 Kamiyah, but yet she lies to her constantly telling her
20 she cares for her, but did she tell her she wasn't
21 looking for her? She was looking for any baby, an easy
22 target, and it just so happened on that day it was our
23 baby. Now I'm here having to fix over 18 years of
24 lies.

25 When she -- when she kidnapped my daughter

1 she was a baby, eight hours old, now she's returned 18
2 years later a grown lady, and now we're left to put the
3 pieces back together because she is too selfish to tell
4 her the truth about her, who her mother is, but it's
5 okay because at the end of the day I am not only
6 standing up here for Shanara, Kamiyah and myself today,
7 I am standing up for all parents of kidnapped kids
8 around the world, and I am hoping they make an example
9 out of -- out of the defendant to let -- let kidnappers
10 know that you can't just take people's kids, take care
11 of them and there will be no consequences.

12 So, in advance, I would like to thank the
13 Court, the Judge, the attorney and my family, and most
14 of all I want to thank God for giving me the chance to
15 speak today. Lord knows I waited a long time.

16 Q Let me ask you, Mr. Aiken, I want to ask you
17 a few more questions to follow up on some of those
18 thoughts. Could you share with the Court what it was
19 like when you found out that you and Shanara were going
20 to have a baby once you got past the initial shock of
21 it all?

22 A Well, it was exciting because at the time
23 that was the first child, and just like Shanara said,
24 it was the start of a change in our life together, you
25 know. You know, we was trying to grow up. You know

1 what I'm saying?

2 Q And were you very young at the time as well?

3 A Yes, I was young, and not just by age, but
4 mind wise too, you know.

5 Q You were immature?

6 A Right.

7 Q Okay. And you were actually -- had gotten
8 arrested and was in jail at the time Kamiyah was born?

9 A Yes, I did. I was also trying to do
10 everything I can to prepare for the child that we had
11 coming, and at that time I went in the wrong direction
12 of doing illegal things and I had marijuana on me at
13 the time and it was for possession of marijuana I had
14 went to jail.

15 Q Okay. Can you talk to the Court about when
16 you found out that Kamiyah was taken? How did that
17 happen?

18 A I was sentenced to four -- I had six months
19 in jail. I was sentenced already and I was in my cell
20 one night, and I remember just telling one of my
21 friends that my baby's mama was pregnant and we fixing
22 to have the baby. The next night a bunch of officers
23 come to the dorm, like ten police officers they come to
24 the dorm and they call me, and at first I'm wondering
25 is what I done did now. So I get up and they're like,

1 follow them. So after they follow me, they're
2 surrounding me following me down the hallway, then they
3 put -- they get me to this little room, and in this
4 little room there is like ten more police, so all of
5 us crowded up in there.

6 And then they tell me, they said, Mr. Aiken,
7 we got good news and we got bad news. I said, well,
8 what's the -- what's the -- what's the good news? I'm
9 already in jail, so what's the good news? So they was
10 like, your daughter was born, Kamiyah Mobley, eight
11 pounds and seven ounces, and I was happy, and I was so
12 happy I forgot to say what's the bad news. So I'm
13 happy.

14 Well, what's the bad news? I'm like I'm
15 thinking at that time everything crossed my mind
16 besides kidnapping. When they told me kidnapping I
17 stood there for a minute because I didn't understand
18 what they mean, you know. I know what the word
19 kidnapping means but, you know, for them to tell it to
20 me, you know, that's something that happens -- only
21 happens on TV, it don't happen to people like me. You
22 know that I'm saying like? So I just kept asking them
23 like, what you mean she got kidnapped? I'm like, what
24 you mean, you know, but then...

25 Q Did they provide you like really any answers?

1 Did they know why? Did they know who, anything like
2 it?

3 A No, they didn't. They didn't tell me. They
4 said they was going to let me talk to my baby's mama,
5 so I was anxious to call and talk to her. When I
6 called her, as soon as she answered the phone she's
7 crying like, you should have been here, you should have
8 been here, and I was like, I was trying to. She was
9 blaming me. She's like, they kidnapped the baby, they
10 came and -- what do you-all mean, what do you-all mean.
11 She's crying and screaming and I can't get nothing out
12 of her and she's just...

13 Q Mr. Aiken, did you feel helpless because of
14 your circumstances?

15 A Helpless is not the word. You know, I try to
16 be there for my family all the time. You know, I've
17 got other kids and everything, so I'm not used to
18 missing or lacking for none of my kids or my -- my
19 kids' mothers, you know, and right now today I'm still
20 mad about that, that I wasn't there for her, until I
21 feel like I owe her now, I need to still be there for
22 her.

23 Q Was jail a good place for you to find out
24 this terrible news? In other words, did you get
25 therapy? Did people try to help you through this

1 grief?

2 A No, I didn't get no therapy. I haven't had
3 no help. Even up till today I haven't had any therapy.
4 I have not tried to seek any help or therapy, but
5 people at that time wasn't trying to help us.

6 Q Have you had problems, even after you got out
7 of jail, with people believing that you or your family
8 was somehow involved in this kidnapping?

9 A Every day up until they find Kamiyah we was,
10 to me, a suspect. You know, they might say we're not
11 suspects, but when I guess even as an officer if you
12 have nothing else to go on but what's right there in
13 front of you, I mean, I guess I can look at it that
14 way. We was suspects, and I felt like being charged
15 with it the whole time.

16 As a matter of fact, Shands or University
17 Hospital, I haven't seen paperwork, they're talking
18 about Gloria. Nobody apologized. Nobody cleared my
19 record of some of the stuff they threw me in jail for.
20 They embarrassed me, charged me with lewd and
21 lascivious, all that type of stuff.

22 Q Okay. Let me ask you this: Did you become
23 like depressed and kind of didn't want to be around
24 people in the months and years after the crime?

25 A Yeah. That -- by I seen in someone's

1 situation how people switched out on you or people
2 treat you because of something, something you went
3 through, and you're hearing all these opinions and
4 people don't even much know you, that type of stuff
5 will tear you down. You know what I'm saying?

6 So I pulled myself away from that. I didn't
7 converse. I didn't make many friends after this. It
8 didn't matter what people said anymore. It made me
9 stronger to be what I needed to be today. You know,
10 that's basically what this kidnapping did, it made me
11 stronger for my -- the rest of my kids and my family.

12 Q And did you attend the births of your other
13 children?

14 A Yes. I have eight kids and three
15 grandbabies, and I was there even for my grandbabies,
16 you know, so.

17 Q Did you maintain a relationship with
18 Ms. Mobley with regard to Kamiyah? In other words, did
19 you ever call on Kamiyah's birthday or things like
20 that?

21 A Yes. Every -- every year we may get -- you
22 know, we try to call each other and we come see each
23 other and we, you know, we talk about what she might
24 look like or we be messing with each other. Oh, she's
25 going to look like you, she's going to look like you,

1 you know, we laugh about that, and we never gave up.
2 We -- like, you know, she saved the cake and I saved
3 the cake, you know, and when she cut a cake, I cut a
4 cake. We always -- we always kept in touch. You know,
5 when we figured out what was going out, that we didn't
6 have nobody else but us, then we came together, you
7 know.

8 Q Was there ever a day that went by in that 18
9 years that your thoughts did not go to Kamiyah Mobley
10 and how she was doing?

11 A Say that again.

12 Q Was there ever a day that went by that you
13 didn't think about your daughter that had been stolen
14 from you?

15 A I thought about my daughter every day. I
16 mean, like I said, I have other kids. You can't help
17 but think about your kid, I mean, think about Kamiyah.
18 She look and act just like the rest of them, you know.
19 I mean, I -- I don't know how to -- I mean, some people
20 might fail to do it, but I never gave up. I -- it just
21 wasn't in me. I just I knew this day would come, but I
22 never knew this day would come that I would finally
23 face the kidnapper. I always pictured myself finding
24 Kamiyah like a superhero or something, like flying into
25 a burning building and grabbing her and flying away and

1 it's over, you know. I never thought about sitting in
2 front of this courtroom reading these papers. You
3 know, I always wondered what she looked like and, you
4 know what was she thinking, you know. Like I don't
5 know what reason a person can do that, but I don't -- I
6 don't think there is a good reason for nobody to do
7 that, and I think she -- a person needs to understand
8 what they do to the other person, you know, they don't
9 think about that, you know.

10 Q Have you become more protective and fearful
11 about things happening to your children and
12 grandchildren as a result of this crime?

13 A Oh, yeah, oh, yeah. Me and my -- all my kids
14 were close. Like I said, I got eight kids and
15 basically all of them still stay with me right now. My
16 oldest is 25 and, you know, she still stay around me.
17 You know what I mean? So all my kids, they're close.
18 We talk about anything. You know, I don't think it
19 would have been no different.

20 Q And do you have a recommendation for the
21 Court about how much time you think that Ms. Williams
22 should do?

23 A And, see, this is the part too like, you
24 know, that she's kind of making it hard for me because,
25 you know, my daughter don't want to see you get no time

1 but, you know, you got -- I can't do it for just her.
2 They've got to set an example, because this stuff has
3 been going on not only is it in black neighborhoods and
4 stuff like that, a lot of people don't get no help, and
5 just to make an example for other kids that get found
6 earlier or to take the blame of the parents and stuff
7 like that, you will have to get the max just to show
8 the next person. Now, what you do with that max gain
9 time, whatever you get off that, you know, that's all
10 you. I just need for them to set the bar for everybody
11 else. You know what I'm saying?

12 And, you know, like I said, I can say
13 anything, my daughter knows me, in just the little
14 short period of time we know each other, so she knows
15 where I'm coming from. I just need you to know where
16 I'm coming from when I do this because this is not me
17 sitting up here on this end of the courtroom. I never
18 really sat up on this part right here before, you know
19 what I'm saying, but I -- and I'm not with sending
20 nobody to jail, but you sat around and watched them
21 drag us and you could have stopped it a long time ago.
22 You know what I'm saying? So that's why I feel like
23 you're going to have to get the max, because I even
24 much heard if you would have brought her back in six
25 months you would have got less of time.

1 You're not -- you're not crazy or none of
2 that type of stuff, you got plenty of sense, that's why
3 you lasted this long. So I just wanted -- I wanted to
4 study you and see what type of person you is, just to
5 watch your movements. I sat over there watching you
6 the whole time, and you're just as normal as I am, but
7 you got to pay for what you did. That's all I've got
8 to say right now.

9 MR. MIZRAHI: That's all the questions I have.
10 Thank you, Mr. Aiken.

11 THE COURT: Thank you, Counsel.

12 MR. LUFRANO: Can we have one moment, Your
13 Honor?

14 THE COURT: Of course.

15 (Mr. Lufrano conferring with Ms. Johnson.)

16 MS. JOHNSON: We have no questions for
17 Mr. Aiken.

18 THE COURT: Thank you.

19 Thank you, Mr. Aiken.

20 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

21 THE COURT: It's 12:22 p.m. Does counsel want
22 to take a lunch break?

23 MR. MIZRAHI: We can, Your Honor.

24 The State doesn't have any further witnesses
25 at this time, so it would be an appropriate time

1 for a lunch break.

2 MS. JOHNSON: I'm sure the staff would
3 appreciate it.

4 THE COURT: Very well.

5 So it's 12:22. Why don't we come back in
6 just over an hour at 1:30 p.m. We'll be in recess
7 until 1:30 p.m. Thanks.

8 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you, Your Honor.

9 (Whereupon, a lunch break was had, after
10 which the proceedings were resumed as follows:)

11 (Defendant present.)

12 THE COURT: Good afternoon.

13 Please be seated if you wish.

14 We're back on the record in the case of the
15 State versus Ms. Williams. All the attorneys who
16 have indicated their appearances today are present.
17 Ms. Williams is present.

18 How would counsel like to proceed?

19 MR. MIZRAHI: It's defense's turn, Your Honor.

20 MS. JOHNSON: Yes, Your Honor.

21 At this time, I'm just making sure, we are
22 ready to call on Ms. Gloria Brown.

23 THE COURT: Very well.

24 Good afternoon.

25 THE DEFENDANT: Good afternoon.

1 THE COURT: If you'll please come forward
2 Madam Clerk will swear you in and then if you will
3 please be seated.

4 OFFICER CHAMBERS: Just stand here, ma'am, and
5 raise your right hand.

6 GLORIA BROWN,
7 having been produced and first duly sworn as a witness,
8 testified as follows:

9 OFFICER CHAMBERS: Come around here and watch
10 your step.

11 THE DEFENDANT: Okay.

12 DIRECT EXAMINATION

13 BY MS. JOHNSON:

14 Q Good afternoon.

15 Would you please state your full name for the
16 record?

17 A My name is Gloria Brown.

18 Q And do you have any nicknames that you go by?

19 A Yes.

20 Q What is that?

21 A Glo.

22 Q How old are you, Ms. Brown?

23 A Seventy-six.

24 Q And where do you reside?

25 A Ruffin, South Carolina.

1 A Have you always lived in Ruffin, South
2 Carolina?

3 A When I graduated from high school I left home
4 at 18 and I went to New York.

5 Q And are you currently employed?

6 A No.

7 Q Have you previously been employed?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Where was that?

10 A In New York and in Smoaks, South Carolina.

11 Q What did you do for a living?

12 A I made jewelry and I worked at a flag place.

13 Q Are you currently married?

14 A Yes.

15 Q To whom?

16 A Wilbert Brown.

17 Q And how long have you and Mr. Brown been
18 married?

19 A Fifty-two years.

20 Q Fifty-two years?

21 A Yes.

22 Q And did you have a child in your marriage?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Who is that?

25 A Gloria Williams.

- 1 Q Do you have any health problems currently?
- 2 A Yes.
- 3 Q And what are those?
- 4 A Diabetes, (unintelligible) derma, pacemaker.
- 5 Q And when did you get the pacemaker put in?
- 6 A In January.
- 7 Q Of this year?
- 8 A Yes.
- 9 Q Do you sometimes have to wear an oxygen tank
- 10 as well?
- 11 A Yes.
- 12 Q What is that for?
- 13 A For my breathing, COPD.
- 14 Q Your daughter Gloria Williams, does she have
- 15 a nickname that most people call her?
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 Q What is that?
- 18 A Quita.
- 19 Q Can you spell that for us?
- 20 A Q-U-I-T-A.
- 21 Q Where was she born?
- 22 A New York.
- 23 Q In the city?
- 24 A Yes.
- 25 Q And is that where she was raised as well?

1 A Yes.

2 Q How old is she this year? How old? Do you
3 know how old she'll be this year?

4 A Fifty-two, I think, fifty-two.

5 Q How would you describe Gloria's childhood?

6 A I think she had a wonderful childhood.

7 Q And how would you describe her personality?

8 A A friendly person.

9 Q Is she normally a happy person?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Usually a smiley person?

12 A Smiley, uh-huh, beautiful smile.

13 Q Did you take Gloria to church while she was
14 growing up?

15 A Yes.

16 Q And where was that?

17 A New York.

18 Q Did she attend school?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Did she ultimately obtain her GED?

21 A Yes.

22 Q And did she eventually go off to college?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Did she also work while she was growing up
25 and going to school?

1 A She worked two summers when she wanted the
2 boom box, and I didn't buy it for her, and she worked
3 that summer to get the boom box, and the next summer
4 she worked to get the contact lens.

5 Q And that's while she's in school?

6 A Yeah, while she's in there.

7 Q You said she had a good childhood. Was she a
8 well behaved child?

9 A Yes.

10 Q You didn't have any problems from her?

11 A No, no problems from her.

12 Q And you were raising her in New York City in
13 the '70s?

14 A Yes.

15 Q And no problems?

16 A No problem.

17 Q How is your relationship with your daughter?

18 A It was great. We did -- we did a lot of
19 things together, and she would take me shopping when I
20 want to go shopping in Charleston, and anything she do
21 for you she would try to help me do it, uh-huh.

22 Q And at some point you left New York and went
23 back to Ruffin, South Carolina?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Was -- did -- was Gloria out of the house by

1 then?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Did you remain in touch with her during that
4 time?

5 A Yes.

6 Q How so?

7 A By telephone.

8 Q And, ultimately, she moved back to South
9 Carolina as well, correct?

10 A Yes.

11 Q And how close in proximity did you live to
12 one another?

13 A Across the street.

14 Q Just before she was incarcerated she was in
15 Walterboro; is that correct?

16 A Yes.

17 Q And how far away was that from Ruffin?

18 A About 12 miles, a good 12 miles. It might be
19 a little more.

20 Q And did you see her?

21 A Yes.

22 Q How -- about how often?

23 A Every week I would see her.

24 Q How often during the week?

25 A Sometimes three days a week, sometimes two.

1 Q Did you guys speak on the phone as well?
2 A Yes.
3 Q How often was that?
4 A Every day, almost every day.
5 Q Do you know a man by the name of William Lee
6 Bolden?
7 A Yes.
8 Q Who is that?
9 A First husband.
10 Q Whose first husband?
11 A Gloria's.
12 Q And was he in the military?
13 A Yes.
14 Q Is that who Ms. Gloria had two boys with?
15 A Yes.
16 Q And who are those boys?
17 A Andre and Antoine Bolden.
18 Q Was William Bolden around much during that
19 time while she was raising the boys?
20 A No, he was in the service, so he'd be gone.
21 Q Did you have the ability to help out with
22 them?
23 A Yes, babysit them.
24 Q How often did you babysit for them?
25 A Well, sometimes often and sometimes quite

1 often.

2 Q And they were living across the street at
3 that time?

4 A Yes, uh-huh.

5 Q How would you describe the boys' childhood?

6 A They were good boys, uh-huh.

7 Q Were they in sports?

8 A Antoine. Andre was a little bit, Antoine was
9 more in sports in basketball. Andre liked the
10 football.

11 Q Were they respectful to you?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Respectful to their mother?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Did you ever notice any signs of abuse?

16 A No.

17 Q Any signs of malnutrition?

18 A No.

19 Q Did you know Gloria to use drugs or abuse
20 alcohol?

21 A No.

22 Q And, ultimately, Gloria and Mr. Bolden, they
23 divorced?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Do you remember a time when she began dating

1 someone named Charles Manigo?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Tell the Court about their relationship.

4 A He was abusive to her and she would have blue
5 marks on her and one time he pulled her arm out of the
6 socket.

7 Q Physically abusive?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Was the -- did the abuse seem to be regular,
10 a regular occurrence?

11 A Yes.

12 Q And at that time were they staying still
13 across the street from you?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Did you ever have to intervene during that
16 time period?

17 A Yes.

18 Q How so?

19 A One time I went over and -- she was talking
20 to one of her friends and the friend called me and I
21 went over there and had to call the police and they
22 escorted him away.

23 Q Do you remember Gloria being pregnant in
24 1998?

25 A Yes.

1 Q What signs did you observe?

2 A Her stomach was getting big and she was
3 gaining weight.

4 Q And did you do anything in preparation for
5 the baby coming?

6 A Yes. We painted the room and we bought a
7 crib for the baby.

8 Q Did you also have a baby shower?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Where was that held?

11 A I think it was at her house or my house, one
12 of them. I can't remember if it was at her house or my
13 house.

14 Q Do you remember having one?

15 A Uh-huh.

16 Q It was a little bit of time ago?

17 A Yes.

18 Q And how did you learn that Gloria had a third
19 child?

20 A She came home and she had the baby, and when
21 she pulled up in the yard I said, what is this? She
22 said, my baby. And she brought the baby in, put it in
23 my lap, and I looked at the baby and she just was a
24 beautiful baby, and Gloria seemed so happy.

25 Q And you said she, so it was a girl?

1 A Uh-huh.

2 Q And what was the name of that child?

3 A Alexis Kelli Manigo.

4 Q And did she have any nicknames growing up?

5 A Lexi, we would call her Lexi.

6 Q And you now know that Lexi is the same child
7 that we've been talking about this morning, Kamiyah
8 Mobley?

9 A Uh-huh.

10 Q Is that a yes?

11 A Yes.

12 Q How would you describe Alexis' childhood?

13 A I think she was raised beautiful. She was a
14 well-mannered young lady, child, and a happy child,
15 uh-huh.

16 Q Would you say she was well cared for?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Did you have the opportunity to babysit for
19 her as well?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Did she have regular medical treatment?

22 A Yes.

23 Q And is she currently wearing braces?

24 A Yes.

25 Q And have you had the ability to assist her

1 with those?

2 A Yes. I helped pay some back bills on the
3 dental and we paid it up to January '18, yes, till '18,
4 January '18.

5 Q Did Alexis ever go hungry?

6 A No.

7 Q Did she always have a clean diaper?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Did you notice any signs of abuse on Alexis?

10 A No.

11 Q Were there any odd forms of punishment?

12 A No.

13 Q Was she always enrolled in school?

14 A Yes.

15 Q And, in fact, did she graduate high school?

16 A Yes.

17 Q And did she have a graduation party?

18 A Yes.

19 Q And were you able to attend that?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Did Alexis attend church with you?

22 A Yes.

23 Q And what church did you attend?

24 A Buckhead United Methodist Church in Ruffin.

25 Q And how long have you been a member of that

1 church?

2 A I grew up there, and then I went away to New
3 York, then I came back home and I resumed church there.

4 Q So most of your life?

5 A Yes, most of my life.

6 Q Did Alexis have any roles at church?

7 A Yes. She was a junior usher.

8 Q What did that entail?

9 A Stand at the door and seat people and give
10 them a fan if they need a fan, and sometimes to help
11 with the collection. When it's the usher's
12 anniversary, she'll go take up the collection.

13 Q And how would you describe Alexis'
14 personality?

15 A To me, she had a good personality.

16 Q Was she also a happy person?

17 A Yes, uh-huh.

18 Q How would you describe Gloria and Alexis'
19 relationship?

20 A A good relationship, mother and daughter, you
21 know, it was a beautiful relationship.

22 Q Was Alexis respectful to Gloria?

23 A Yes.

24 Q And what about to you?

25 A Yes.

1 Q Did you have any problems with her growing
2 up?

3 A No.

4 Q And how is your relationship with Alexis?

5 A It's good. She will call me every now and
6 then and I will call her, and she stopped by the
7 another night a couple weeks ago and I had -- I wasn't
8 feeling good. She washed up the dishes for me. We
9 have a good relationship.

10 Q And what kind of things would you and Alexis
11 do as she was growing up as a child?

12 A Sometimes I would play catch ball with her
13 and watch TV together.

14 Q Did she spend a lot of time at your home?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Tell me how your family spends the holidays.

17 A At Thanksgiving and Christmas we all get
18 together and have dinner.

19 Q And spend it all together?

20 A Yes.

21 Q And, obviously, we are here today because
22 Gloria has pled guilty to two counts in the
23 information. How did you learn about the news of this
24 crime?

25 A Her and Alexis came to the house and she told

1 me that Alexis wasn't her child, and it was just like a
2 shock. I know I was sitting there, I don't know,
3 reading or do something, and she said, mom, I want you
4 to stop doing what you're doing. I've got something to
5 tell you. She said, I done something real bad. Alexis
6 is not my child. And we sat there for a minute, and
7 then they left. It was just like a nightmare, a dream
8 or something. Then the next thing I know she was
9 arrested, uh-huh.

10 Q And she and Alexis told you together?

11 A Yes, uh-huh.

12 Q And you said it was a shock to you?

13 A Yes, it was.

14 Q It that the person that you raised?

15 A Uh-huh.

16 Q Did you believe that that could occur from
17 someone that you raised?

18 A No, I couldn't believe it.

19 Q How has the last 16 months since Gloria has
20 been incarcerated changed your life?

21 A A whole lot. I feel like I've been sicker
22 more. It seems like my health is going downhill. It's
23 changed a whole lot.

24 Q And when you say you've been sicker a lot,
25 have you been hospitalized since she's been

1 incarcerated?

2 A Yes.

3 Q How many times?

4 A About three times, three or four times.

5 Q And previously when you were hospitalized,
6 when Gloria was not incarcerated, what would she do for
7 you?

8 A Come to the hospital, do my hair, help me get
9 bathed and see the doctor to see what he's telling me,
10 tell her about my health.

11 Q So she would go to the hospital with you?

12 A Yeah.

13 Q Did she also attend doctor's appointments
14 with you?

15 A Sometimes.

16 Q Mrs. Brown, are you mad at Gloria?

17 A No, I'm not mad at my daughter. I love her
18 so much, and I miss her, and I hope the Judge and you
19 all see that she comes back home with us and help me
20 through my time. I need her and her father needs her
21 because he's diagnosed with Parkinson's and I just want
22 her to come home.

23 Q And when she is -- if she is ultimately
24 released, you'll be there to support her?

25 A Yes, I would, uh-huh.

1 Q And help her get back on her feet?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Is there anything else that you think the
4 Court should know about your daughter before she
5 imposes sentence?

6 A She's a good person. She made a mistake, but
7 I think she done learned and asked God to forgive her
8 for her mistakes, and Alexis love her and we love her
9 and we want her to come home.

10 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mrs. Brown.

11 THE COURT: Thank you, Counsel.

12 MR. MIZRAHI: May it please the Court.

13 THE COURT: Yes.

14 CROSS-EXAMINATION

15 BY MS. MIZRAHI:

16 Q You ready, Ms. Brown?

17 I just have a few questions, okay?

18 A Okay.

19 Q All right. Ms. Brown, do you agree that one
20 job of a parent is to provide care, diapers, food,
21 medicine, like that for your children? Do you agree
22 with that?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Okay. Do you also agree that a job of a
25 parent is to teach your child things?

1 A Yes.

2 Q What kind of things do you think a parent
3 should teach their child?

4 A Respect for another, each individual, respect
5 each other.

6 Q Do you think it's important for a parent to
7 set a good example for a child?

8 A Yes.

9 Q And do you think it's important for a parent
10 to not only tell a child to respect others but to also
11 show respect to others so the child learns from a
12 parent's behavior and not what just they say?

13 A Yes.

14 Q And you tried to teach that to Gloria
15 Williams, the defendant, correct?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Why did you take her to church regularly?

18 A Well, we were brought up in the church, went
19 to Sunday school, go to church and respect your elders,
20 respect everybody really, and to learn about God.

21 Q And did -- and when you used to spend time in
22 church, did you learn do unto others as they would have
23 them do unto to?

24 A Yes.

25 Q You heard that before?

1 A Yes.

2 Q And did you try to teach that to
3 Ms. Williams, your daughter?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Okay. When you found out, when your daughter
6 confessed to you that she had committed this crime, how
7 long before she was arrested did that happen?

8 A I don't know, the next day or the day after,
9 I don't remember that.

10 Q Okay. But it was within a very short period?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Do you think you would have told had you
13 known earlier? In other words, if Alexis was one year
14 old and your daughter came to you and confessed to you
15 that she had stolen Alexis, what would you have done?

16 A I would have talked to her and tell her let's
17 take and turn the baby in.

18 Q Okay. What if Ms. Williams said, I don't
19 want to do that, what would you have done?

20 A That, I don't know what I would have did.

21 Q I know what I'm asking is --

22 A I would --

23 Q I'm sorry, go ahead, ma'am.

24 A All I would do is I would try to tell her to
25 turn the baby back in.

1 Q And is that because that's the right thing to
2 do?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Okay. Did you have any clue for the 18 years
5 that Kamiyah Mobley, Alexis Manigo, was not your
6 granddaughter?

7 A None at all.

8 Q When Gloria Williams confessed to you, and I
9 just want to make sure that, she told you that she had
10 done something real bad?

11 A Uh-huh.

12 Q Is that true?

13 A Yes.

14 Q And so, in your opinion, did she know that
15 what she had done was wrong?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Do you know how she was arrested? In other
18 words, do you know if she turned herself in or whether
19 the police had to go and arrest her?

20 A I think they came to her house.

21 MR. MIZRAHI: That's all the questions I have.

22 THE COURT: Counsel, anything further?

23 MS. JOHNSON: No, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: Thank you very much for your time.

25 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

1 THE COURT: You can proceed with your next
2 witness when you're ready to go.

3 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you.

4 And we would call Mr. Wilbert Brown.

5 THE COURT: Very well.

6 Good afternoon.

7 If you'll please come forward, Madam Clerk
8 will swear you in.

9 OFFICER CHAMBERS: Raise your right hand.

10 THE CLERK: Please raise your right hand.

11 **WILBERT BROWN,**

12 having been produced and first duly sworn as a witness,
13 testified as follows:

14 THE COURT: And if you'll please be seated.

15 OFFICER CHAMBERS: Watch your step.

16 Make sure he sees the step.

17 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Brown, there is a step up
18 there, so just be careful.

19 THE COURT: If you'll just watch your step.

20 Thank you.

21 Have a seat.

22 DIRECT EXAMINATION

23 BY MS. JOHNSON:

24 Q Good afternoon, Ms. Brown.

25 Would you please state your full name for the

1 record?

2 A My name, Wilbert Brown.

3 Q And, Mr. Brown, how old are you?

4 A Seventy-six.

5 Q And where do you reside? Where do you live?

6 A Oh, South Carolina.

7 Q Are you currently employed?

8 A I'm retired.

9 Q From what?

10 A Transit Authority, number one, and I almost
11 retired from Wal-Mart.

12 Q And the Transit Authority, how long were you
13 with them?

14 A Twenty-three years.

15 Q And was that in New York City?

16 A New York City.

17 Q And are you currently married?

18 A Yes, ma'am.

19 Q And is that to Mrs. Gloria Brown?

20 A Yes, ma'am.

21 Q And I think she told us that -- do you
22 currently suffer from any health problems?

23 A Well, arthritis, Parkinson's.

24 Q And when were you diagnosed with Parkinson's?

25 A Several years back.

1 Q And are you taking medication for that
2 currently?

3 A Yes, ma'am.

4 Q And do you know Ms. Gloria Williams?

5 A Yes, ma'am.

6 Q How do you know Ms. Williams?

7 A That's my daughter.

8 Q How would you describe Ms. Williams?

9 A She's a lovely child.

10 Q A lovely child?

11 A Yes, ma'am.

12 Q Was she respectful?

13 A Yes, ma'am.

14 Q Give you guys any problems while she was
15 growing up?

16 A No, ma'am.

17 Q Do you recall when Gloria was married to
18 Mr. Bolden?

19 A To who?

20 Q Bolden?

21 A Oh, yes, ma'am.

22 Q And at that time did you guys have to help
23 her out with the boys?

24 A Yes, ma'am.

25 Q Why is that?

1 A Well, because they come spend time with us
2 and we would have -- and they'd come see us and we
3 would take care of them.

4 Q How were -- and that's Andre and Antoine,
5 correct?

6 A Yes, ma'am.

7 Q And how were they growing up?

8 A Average kids, you know, you know, joyful, a
9 little bad sometimes, sometimes good, I'd have to say
10 young kids having fun.

11 Q Can I have you pull that mike up closer to
12 you?

13 Would you say they had a good childhood?

14 A Yes, they had a good childhood.

15 Q And were you pretty close with them?

16 A Uh-huh. Well, not as close as should have
17 been because they used to stay in a different part of
18 town.

19 Q But you got to see them often?

20 A Uh-huh, quite often.

21 Q Not enough in your mind though?

22 A No.

23 Q Do you recall a time when Gloria was dating a
24 guy named Charles Manigo?

25 A Yes, I remember.

1 Q What can you tell us about that relationship?

2 A Bad, a bad mixup there.

3 Q Why is that?

4 A Because he was abusive to her, you know.

5 Q Was that something you heard or did you
6 actually observe some markings on your daughter's body?

7 A I had observed some of it, but I tried not to
8 get really upset about it.

9 Q What did you observe on -- any markings on
10 your daughter's body?

11 A Well, the bruises, bruise mark, when he
12 pulled her socket out of her arm.

13 Q It was a pretty tumultuous relationship then?

14 A Yes, ma'am.

15 Q And do you remember Gloria being pregnant in
16 1998, Mr. Williams?

17 A Yes.

18 Q And at some point she brought Alexis Manigo
19 home?

20 A Yes, ma'am.

21 Q And tell us about Alexis.

22 A Well, Alexis was a beautiful and very lovely
23 little baby.

24 Q And did you get to spend a lot of time with
25 her?

- 1 A Yes, ma'am.
- 2 Q How so?
- 3 A Quite often.
- 4 Q Quite often?
- 5 A Yes.
- 6 Q Was she a respectful child?
- 7 A Yes, she was.
- 8 Q Healthy child?
- 9 A Oh, healthy.
- 10 Q Did she ever want for anything?
- 11 A No, not really.
- 12 Q Why is that?
- 13 A Because we saw to it that she got what she
- 14 wanted.
- 15 Q Did she remain enrolled in school?
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 Q And did she attend church with you guys?
- 18 A Excuse me?
- 19 Q Did she attend church with you guys?
- 20 A With the mother more often than me, because I
- 21 didn't go as often as the wife did.
- 22 Q You had the house to yourself on Sundays?
- 23 A Yes.
- 24 Q Yes.
- 25 What was your relationship with Alexis?

1 A It was a very loving relationship.

2 Q And what did she call you?

3 A Daddy.

4 Q And why is that?

5 A Because that's what she loved to call me.

6 Q Did you assist in getting Alexis a cell

7 phone?

8 A I'm still giving her a phone.

9 Q You're still getting it, you're still paying

10 the cell phone bill?

11 A Yes, ma'am.

12 Q And how long have you been doing that for?

13 A It's been several years.

14 Q And I believe you were home at the same time

15 as Mrs. Brown. How did you learn the news of this

16 crime?

17 A Well, she came to the house one night.

18 Q When you say she, Gloria Williams?

19 A Gloria Williams, right. She said -- her

20 mother, me and her mother was in the kitchen, and she

21 said, mama, I got something bad to tell you, she said,

22 Alexis is not my child.

23 She asked her, what you mean it's not your

24 child?

25 She said, this is not my child.

1 Q What did you think of that news?

2 A Well, I said, well, what's going -- what's
3 going on it's not your child?

4 So then she told us what had happened. She
5 said she had left the hospital with Alexis and it
6 wasn't hers, so.

7 Q What did you think about that news? What was
8 going on in your head?

9 A I said, it don't sound -- it didn't sound
10 right to me anyway. So I said, well, the best thing is
11 to try and get this straightened out, you know.

12 Q Is that behavior, kidnapping a child, was
13 that out of character for your daughter?

14 A Yes, ma'am, very out of character.

15 Q And have you remained in touch with Alexis
16 since Gloria's incarceration?

17 A Yes, ma'am.

18 Q How does she seem to be doing?

19 A Use the cell phone and we go by the house,
20 their house and see her.

21 Q Does she seem to be doing okay?

22 A She's doing fine.

23 Q How has your life changed over the last 16
24 months during your daughter's incarceration?

25 A My life didn't change that much. It was just

1 hard to understand why she did it, but as far as my
2 life changing, I didn't change a bit.

3 Q Do you still get to speak to her regularly?

4 A Uh-huh, yes, ma'am.

5 Q Gloria?

6 A Yes, ma'am.

7 Q You just don't get to see her regularly?

8 A Right.

9 Q And what would you like the Court to know
10 about Mrs. Williams, your daughter, before she imposes
11 sentence?

12 A Well, like he said, you do the crime you got
13 to do the time. You know, I just hope it's not as bad
14 as it might be, but whatever it is we have to accept
15 that.

16 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you, sir.

17 THE COURT: Thank you, Counsel.

18 MR. MIZRAHI: I have no questions, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Thank you so much for your time.

20 THE WITNESS: You're welcome.

21 THE COURT: Please watch your step.

22 You may proceed, Counsel.

23 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you, Your Honor.

24 We would call Reverend Sheri White.

25 THE COURT: Good afternoon.

1 MS. WHITE: Good afternoon.

2 THE COURT: Madam Clerk will swear you in, and
3 then if you'll please be seated.

4 OFFICER CHAMBERS: Raise your right hand.

5 **SHERI WHITE,**

6 having been produced and first duly sworn as a witness,
7 testified as follows:

8 OFFICER CHAMBERS: Have a seat and watch your
9 step.

10 DIRECT EXAMINATION

11 BY MS. JOHNSON

12 Q Good afternoon.

13 Would you please state your name for the
14 record?

15 A Sheri Yvette-Base White.

16 Q And could you spell that for the court
17 reporter?

18 A S-H-E-R-I Y-V-E-T-T-E - B-A-S-E, White,
19 W-H-I-T-E.

20 Q And, Ms. White, are there any titles that you
21 go by?

22 A Mom, Pastor, Rev.

23 Q And where do you reside?

24 A I reside in Ruffin, South Carolina.

25 Q And what type of education do you have?

1 A I have a masters in divinity from Hood
2 Theological Seminary in Salisbury, North Carolina.

3 Q And have you ever served in the military?

4 A I have.

5 Q Which branch?

6 A U. S. Army.

7 Q And how were you discharged?

8 A Honorable discharge.

9 Q Are you currently employed?

10 A I am currently employed.

11 Q And where is that?

12 A I have employment with U. S. Securities,
13 which is the night job that I have, but I'm full time
14 employed as the pastor of Ruffin Parish, which includes
15 Hickory Hill United Methodist Church and Buckhead
16 United Methodist Churches.

17 Q And how long have you been over the Buckhead
18 Church?

19 A I have been over the Buckhead United
20 Methodist Church since June 26th of 2013, so I am in my
21 fifth year.

22 Q And what are your duties as a reverend there?

23 A Everything you could think of. I am there as
24 administrative. I'm there as counselor. I'm there as
25 the projecting of the Word. I'm there as pastoral care

1 where I'm visiting the sick. I'm pretty much
2 everything that they would need as far as guidance or
3 direction.

4 Q And tell us about your churches.

5 A Oh, wow. Like I said, I pastor two. I have
6 Hickory Hill, which is in Smoaks, South Carolina,
7 approximately seven miles away from Ruffin,
8 approximately 45 members that attend, about 65
9 membership on the roll. Hickory Hill works very well
10 with Buckhead, which is the church in question in
11 Ruffin, South Carolina, with a membership of
12 approximately 65 individuals, approximately 80 on roll.
13 Buckhead is in the town of Ruffin, right in front of
14 Ruffin High School, which has closed. Both churches
15 are wonderful churches to serve, they get along well.
16 If something happens to one, all of them come together
17 and we help out each other no matter what.

18 Q And you touched on it, but tell us a little
19 bit more about your parishioners at Buckhead.

20 A Buckhead is a family church, and I think out
21 of all of the members there there are only two
22 individuals that were not born and raised in the
23 Walterboro Ruffin area. I believe one of them might be
24 Brother Brown and the other one may be sister Thelma
25 Acromin, but other than that, everybody is family, and

1 they -- they go to school together, they rear their
2 children together, and when someone dies they mourn
3 together, when there is a birth, they're excited
4 together. You know, it's you can never go there and
5 say, I need help, and there wouldn't be someone there
6 to help you out. I learned that firsthand.

7 The first Sunday I preached I preached at
8 Hickory Hill, which is in Smoaks. I went home. I
9 found out the next Sunday that I was supposed to go to
10 Ms. Vivian's house for dinner because that's what the
11 pastors always did, and I've been there every Sunday
12 that I can since. So it's a community of love
13 basically.

14 Q And do you know Gloria Brown Williams?

15 A I do.

16 Q How do you know Mrs. Williams?

17 A I'm her pastor. I'm her friend.

18 Q And at which church is that?

19 A Buckhead.

20 Q What do you call Mrs. Williams?

21 A Quita.

22 Q And is that what most people at the church
23 called her?

24 A Mostly, that way we don't get confused
25 between Ms. Glo and Quita.

1 Q And you stated you know Mrs. Williams from
2 church. Is she a member at the church?

3 A She is.

4 Q And was she an active member?

5 A Very active.

6 Q How so?

7 A When I arrived at the church we needed a
8 youth coordinator, and we didn't know exactly what we
9 were going to do because the youth coordinator prior
10 had quit. And I talked to her about it. I was like,
11 you know, do you think you can do this, and she
12 accepted the challenge of being the youth coordinator.

13 She also accepted the challenge of being on
14 the Pastor Parish Relationship Committee, which we call
15 PPRC, and that's a handful by itself. She's a United
16 Methodist woman, so she works with mission in the
17 community as well as abroad. She's an avid member.
18 You know, she's not that just on her own. She is
19 involved every Sunday that the doors are open, every
20 first and third Sunday she's there. She has organized
21 some things for the community even.

22 Q And the selection of a youth and children's
23 coordinator, tell the Court about that. Was there a
24 nomination process?

25 A There is. We have a nomination committee at

1 the church, matter of fact, at all church -- at both
2 churches. The nomination committee is in prayer to
3 find someone that would have the temperament, the
4 attitude, the love, to care for children elementary
5 school all the way to high school. We labelled it age
6 appropriate ministry because we don't have a lot of
7 children. We don't have a lot of youth. I think when
8 I got there there were only two -- well, three youth
9 because I brought my daughter. So there were, you
10 know, only that age group, but we still have a lot of
11 children.

12 We tried to find someone that would not only
13 love the children, will take care of the children,
14 protect them, but also someone that is going to be
15 there when the children need somebody to talk to, and
16 with prayer we came up with Gloria, and so it was my
17 job to go ask her if she would be interested, because
18 this is not a small task, you're dealing with
19 teenagers, you're dealing with young children, and
20 sometimes they can be very rambunctious, but she said
21 she was willing to try.

22 Q And is that -- did that require a statewide
23 background check?

24 A It did. Matter of fact, all of our positions
25 that have to deal with the elderly or the children or

1 those who are not able to speak or care for themselves
2 require a background check, as well as an interview by
3 the members of the counsel in the church.

4 Q And did she go through that background check?

5 A She did.

6 Q And the interview process?

7 A She did.

8 Q What is a certified volunteer?

9 A The same thing. A certified volunteer means
10 that you have already gone through the background
11 checks, you have been approved, you have gone through
12 counsel, as well as charge conference. The charge
13 conference is a conference that we have within the body
14 of the church to designate our leaders for the next
15 coming year as well as what programs we have already
16 done and the programs that we're going to be doing in
17 the future tense.

18 Q Okay. So being deemed a certified volunteer
19 as the youth and children's coordinator, Mrs. Williams
20 was able to work with youth and full grown adults?

21 A Yes.

22 Q And how long did she serve as your youth
23 coordinator?

24 A Until I had to pick someone else. She became
25 my official youth coordinator in January of 2014, and I

1 had to get an interim in February of 2017.

2 Q Was that due to her incarceration?

3 A It was.

4 Q And as a youth coordinator in that position,
5 did Mrs. Williams have to take co-ed day trips and
6 overnight trips with female parishioners?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Were there ever any complaints or accusations
9 during that three year term?

10 A Not that came to me, no.

11 Q What is Harambee?

12 A Harambee is a -- it's like a youth summit.

13 It's where the children come together and they learn
14 about specific topics, and in learning about that topic
15 it's related to them, what's going on in their lives.
16 So they kind of let down their hair. And the kids,
17 they can talk to adults from around the state and they
18 have their own speakers, sometimes they have music
19 involved, they have dance involved, but it's a way for
20 them to communicate and find out things with each other
21 outside of, you know, mom and dad's prying eyes. They
22 can talk to each other and say, you know, hey, I'm not
23 doing this by myself, you also have problems and
24 you-all are from upstate. You know, how can we form a
25 friendship and work together to solve problems.

1 Q And is that a religious based summit?

2 A It is.

3 Q And did Mrs. Williams attend one of those
4 summits with you?

5 A If I'm not mistaken, I believe she attended
6 two, that I was -- while I was the pastor.

7 Q And was she invited back after the
8 attendance?

9 A Oh, yes. As a matter of fact, they had such
10 a good time, when they took their group picture, I
11 think that was the year they had over 120 students, and
12 they actually took a group picture. They were at
13 Claflin University, and she was in the picture, and
14 they were -- they said she had more energy than the
15 kids had, because they -- the kids were a little shy
16 about dancing in the church because, of course, we
17 teach them dancing in the church is not good, but they
18 were trying to get that understanding that it was a
19 safe space where they could be themselves. So they
20 asked her if she would come back the next year, and I
21 gladly signed the paperwork.

22 Q And you mentioned the Pastor Parishioner
23 Relations Committee. What is that?

24 A PPRC is a committee in the United Methodist
25 Church that I think everyone wants to be on but nobody

1 wants to be on. It's the committee that is in charge
2 of any individual who is a paid employee of the church.
3 So myself, I'm a played -- I'm a paid employee, our
4 sexton, custodian, paid employed, our organist, our
5 drummer. They set the contracts. They set the
6 guidelines as to what they need us to do. They
7 evaluate our performance, especially the pastor,
8 because my evaluation does not stay inhouse. My
9 evaluation goes to the district and then goes to the
10 conference, and with that evaluation, depending on if I
11 have done my job in the way that they see fit, then I
12 may be asked to come back. If I have not and they
13 think they need a new pastor, then I would be asked to
14 leave at the end of the year.

15 Q And Mrs. Williams served on that Pastor
16 Parishioner Relationships Committee?

17 A She did.

18 Q Was she also a Christmas program director for
19 the church?

20 A She was, she was.

21 Q What did that entail?

22 A We wanted to do something to try to draw
23 attention to the fact that we didn't have a lot of
24 youth and, as a matter of fact, when she was on PPRC
25 she represented the youth portion of the church,

1 because each person represents a section. So if the
2 children had a question or if they wanted something or
3 they had an idea, of course, it would come to her and
4 then come to me.

5 We had a Christmas celebration and they
6 wanted it to be different, so we decided to do drama.
7 We decided to put up a Chrismon tree and a Christmas
8 tree, and we just couldn't figure out where to put both
9 trees, but we wound up putting the trees in the
10 sanctuary, and she came with the idea of instead of the
11 adults decorating the tree, that when we actually come
12 in and we do what we call hanging of the greens, which
13 is the first Sunday in December, we would come in and
14 let the children participate.

15 So that year the children turned on the
16 lights, they brought down the poinsettias, they helped
17 hang the wreaths, and at the end of the service they
18 hang all the decorations on the Christmas tree or the
19 Chrismon tree in the sanctuary, and throughout the
20 month there would be presents under the tree because we
21 would get together and put things under the tree for
22 the children, and so then we had our pre-Easter, excuse
23 me, pre-Christmas program the night before Christmas,
24 which was put on by someone else, they would actually
25 have gifts, they wouldn't leave empty handed.

1 Q And that was an idea of Mrs. Williams'?

2 A It was a -- it was something that she helped
3 carry out, but it was a joint effort between worship
4 and the youth department.

5 Q And what is U. M. Women?

6 A United Methodist Women. The United Methodist
7 Women of the South Carolina annual conference are a
8 group of women that have pledged to be about mission.
9 Every church is allowed to have a United Methodist
10 Women in South Carolina in the conference. I've got
11 clusters and some of them have seven members, some of
12 them can have up to over 200 members in a church, but
13 what these women do is they do mission work, whether it
14 be packing lunches for those who are sick or whether --
15 what we do, we give out fruit baskets, and we've been
16 giving them out not just at Christmas but sometimes
17 throughout the year. We help with the soup ministry in
18 the church for those that are elderly, not just our
19 members, but in the Walterboro community and the St.
20 George community. We take up money and we send our
21 money to the different homes that we have, because we
22 have different missions in the state as well as outside
23 of the State. The money that is raised by United
24 Methodist Women as a whole can touch the lives of
25 people from South Carolina to Africa to Honduras to

1 Jamaica, it's worldwide, so it's not just something we
2 do inhouse, but we do plan activities inhouse so that
3 we can find those missions abroad.

4 Q And is Mrs. Williams a -- was she a member of
5 that organization as well?

6 A She was an active member. She was, if I'm
7 not mistaken, I believe she was communications for that
8 group, because they gave me the job after it was over.

9 Q And what does that job entail?

10 A Oh, wow. If we are planning something, if we
11 are doing something at the church and it has to do with
12 raising money, the job is to make sure you contact the
13 newspaper, contact the Advocate, which is the South
14 Carolina newspaper for the United Methodist Church,
15 contact the groups that we wanted to come in, send out
16 invitations, send out flyers, in other words, make sure
17 that the word got out so that we can have a good
18 showing and have a good participation group so that
19 other churches could come and help us raise money so
20 that we could do mission abroad.

21 Q That sounds like another full-time job.

22 A It is.

23 Q And what is Victory House?

24 A Victory House is the Veterans Victory House
25 in Walterboro. It is a state-owned establishment for

1 our veterans. If you are a veteran and there is room
2 available, you are able to stay at the Victory House.

3 Q And who is Mr. Green from the Victory House?

4 A Mr. Willie C. Green. I have to make sure
5 because I went to the hospital one Sunday calling for
6 Mr. Willie Green and it was the wrong Willie.
7 Mr. Willie C. Green is a member of Buckhead United
8 Methodist Church, I met him at Victory House, and in
9 communing with him and talking about him and sometimes
10 even arguing with him because he wouldn't take his
11 medicines, he said he wanted to come back to church, he
12 wanted to be able to visit Buckhead. He realized he
13 was getting older and some people that were coming to
14 visit him, which I didn't know about, they were people
15 who had passed away, so he wanted to be able to come
16 back. And through the help and assistance of Sister
17 Gloria she was able to get it to where he could come
18 back. I believe he was with us twice while she was
19 employed at the Victory House.

20 And, honestly, the first time he came back I
21 remember he was so happy to be there, and he told
22 everyone that he was glad that he could come and be at
23 church, because he had to have a chaperone. You know,
24 you can't just leave the Victory House, you have to be
25 signed out by someone that was, you know, that was

1 going to be able to take care of you, so we fostered
2 him coming.

3 And he was able to talk to Ms. Seabrook who
4 he hadn't seen in a very long time, and within a few --
5 a few months Ms. Seabrook passed away, and I remember
6 him saying that he was glad he was able to talk to her
7 that time because if he hadn't come back he wouldn't
8 have been able to tell her the things that he needed
9 to. What those things were, I don't know, but I know
10 it was something that was a load off of his shoulder.

11 Q And that was through the assistance of
12 Mrs. Williams?

13 A It was.

14 Q And what is the Bikes and Barbecue event?

15 A We still have it. We needed a fundraiser for
16 our youth, they wanted so many different things. They
17 wanted to go to Harmabee. They wanted to go to
18 South-hatchee. They wanted to have a float for the MLK
19 Day Parade. They wanted and needed scholarships for
20 when they go to college. They had aspirations, and we
21 did not have a budget. We didn't have money. We were
22 busy paying bills.

23 And I remember that I had a few bikers that
24 were members of both churches, and a friend of mine
25 went to a blessing of the bikes at a church and they

1 raised money. So I brought it back and I said, do you
2 think we could do this? Well, Gloria took that and ran
3 with it, and we had the first Bikes and Barbecue at
4 Buckhead United Methodist Church. And she helped
5 coordinate the food, she helped coordinate the bikers,
6 she helped coordinate the communication that went out.
7 I think for eight months straight she lived and
8 breathed Bikes and Barbecue and where we were going to
9 get everything. And it was a chance to bring the two
10 churches together with the youth, and to the point
11 where I believe she even ran into our Bishop and
12 invited him and gave him a flyer come to Bikes and
13 Barbecue, and of course he wanted to go but his wife
14 wouldn't let him get on a bike, you know, but it was a
15 success. I mean, that first year set the mark.

16 And we -- it rained because we picked the day
17 before Easter, but the bikers were outside with the
18 ladies helping to put flowers on the cross, which is a
19 tradition that they do. They were outside helping us
20 put things together. We had a blessing and we went on
21 a ride and, honestly, we raised a good bit of money for
22 the youth, something that would not have happened had
23 we not put forth that much effort and had not she had
24 the energy to do a whole lot of talking.

25 Q And she being Mrs. Williams?

1 A Yes.

2 Q And did Mrs. Williams assist you in some way
3 in obtaining information regarding your possible VA
4 benefits?

5 A Yes.

6 Q What was that?

7 A For years I've been fighting to get
8 disability with the VA or just acknowledge that I'm a
9 veteran, and one day I was talking to Quita about it
10 and she said, you know, all veterans have a doctor.

11 I said, I don't have a doctor.

12 All veterans have a doctor at the VA.

13 I don't have one.

14 And she said, you know, give me your
15 information.

16 So I did, and she came back and she said,
17 here's your doctor, here's the plan that you're on,
18 here's where you need to go have your psychical, and if
19 you have your physical, you should be able to be in
20 with no problem.

21 I scheduled a physical the next day, and when
22 I got my VA card, I came running to everybody showing
23 her my VA card, with the most ugliest picture on it,
24 but I was happy that I had it because now that means I
25 can go to the VA and be seen at least once a year for a

1 physical and I can get my medication, which actually
2 helps me out.

3 Q And did that ultimately turn into some type
4 of veterans affair at the church?

5 A It did. I was able to connect with a
6 gentleman by the name of Larry Adams who works in
7 Columbia, and we -- with talking with him I found out
8 that there are a lot of other people like me who are
9 not getting the information that they need so that they
10 can get their veteran benefits or they've been fighting
11 for a long time to get them and nobody is there to help
12 them.

13 So we decided that we would put on a veterans
14 fair, a veterans information fair, and we did it at
15 Buckhead, and Gloria was instrumental, because with her
16 being at the Victory House she was able to help us get
17 the word out. You know, family members would come in
18 and she'd tell them about it. We made sure that we had
19 flyers and we had yard signs. And that day we were
20 able to sign about 30 individuals to come in the door
21 and receive the training so that they understood the
22 policies, they understood how to read the health care
23 pamphlet, because they had a very thick pamphlet to
24 read. They understood that they could get insurance.
25 If they couldn't get health and life insurance, they

1 could get death and burial insurance, and that was
2 something I didn't know about, and now when people say,
3 you know, this person is sick or that person is sick,
4 I'm able to tell them that there is such a thing as
5 death and burial insurance that they can actually
6 receive. So with her help a lot of people in the
7 Ruffin area, a lot of people in the Walterboro area
8 were able to get at least their foot in the door. I'm
9 not sure where they've gone as far as their quest, but
10 I know with mine I'm still -- I'm still forging ahead.

11 Q And that was with the assistance of
12 Mrs. Williams?

13 A It is.

14 Q Did you know Mrs. Williams to use any illicit
15 drugs?

16 A No.

17 Q Did you know Ms. Williams to abuse alcohol?

18 A No.

19 Q And did you have the opportunity to meet
20 Alexis Manigo?

21 A I did.

22 Q Okay. And how old was she when you first got
23 to the church, do you recall?

24 A I'm thinking she was either 14 or 15.

25 Q And would you -- how would you describe

1 Alexis' personality?

2 A Firecracker, she lights up a room, her smile
3 is contagious, respectful, a joy to be around, and no
4 matter what, she's going to try to make you laugh.

5 Q And did you get to spend a lot of time around
6 her?

7 A I did.

8 Q Did you ever observe any signs of abuse?

9 A No.

10 Q Any odd form of punishment?

11 A No.

12 Q And did you know her always to be enrolled in
13 school?

14 A Always.

15 Q Did you know her to ever want for anything?

16 A No.

17 Q And was she considered the baby of the
18 church?

19 A Alexis was everybody's baby. Everybody had a
20 hand in making sure that Alexis got whatever Alexis
21 wanted. She was, and still is, the love of Buckhead.
22 We miss her dearly, but we understand that with her
23 growing up things are going to change. As a matter of
24 fact, I think Alexis graduated high school. We made
25 sure that she received a scholarship from the same

1 group that we had been trying to raise money for, that
2 her mom had a hand in raising money for, so that she
3 could actually go on to college if that was her choice.

4 Q And do you have a daughter?

5 A I do.

6 Q And what is her name?

7 A Ar'Mune.

8 Q And were she and Alexis friends?

9 A They were. They hit it off well together.

10 Q Did Ar'Mune spend time over at the Williams'
11 residence?

12 A All the time.

13 Q And did you have any problems with allowing
14 her to stay over there?

15 A No. I'd just get a phone call from Quita or
16 I'd get a phone call from Ar'Mune on Quita's phone
17 saying I'm -- I'm -- you know where I am, I'm at mom's.

18 Okay. You're at mom's. All right. I'll
19 pick you up on the way home.

20 Okay. Do I have to come home?

21 Yes, you have to come home.

22 So it was like a sisterhood. They had fun
23 together. They went walking. Sometimes now when we
24 drive into Walterboro Ar'Mune will be like, mom, that's
25 the park we went to or, you know, that's the -- that's

1 the restaurant we ate at, and I'm like, okay, you know,
2 different things they did together. No problems.

3 Q And so Ar'Mune and Mrs. Williams were very
4 close?

5 A Very close.

6 Q And how old is Ar'Mune?

7 A Now, 18.

8 Q And you trusted Mrs. Williams with your
9 daughter?

10 A Absolutely.

11 Q And do you -- would you still trust
12 Mrs. Williams with your daughter?

13 A Absolutely.

14 Q How would you describe Gloria's personality?

15 A Sunshine. She would come in, if she was
16 having a bad day you really didn't know it. She would
17 always have a smile on her face. If something was
18 going wrong, you really wouldn't know it. She'd try
19 her best to put the best foot forward, you know, always
20 had a kind, loving, warm heart, you know, when dealing
21 with people.

22 Q And I know, ultimately, Mrs. Williams would
23 be -- was a member of your church, but did that
24 membership and the -- as a parishioner, did that grow
25 into actual friendship?

1 A Yes.

2 Q And you had a personal relationship with
3 Mrs. Williams outside of the church?

4 A Yes.

5 Q And tell the Court about that.

6 A When I first got to the church I think both
7 of us were in the same space of time when you think
8 about our lives. She was getting ready to go back to
9 school, I think to get her bachelors, and I was
10 finishing up my masters. And a lot of times, you know,
11 I'd be pulling my hair out and I looked like I was
12 tired, I guess, and she'd stick her head in and be
13 like, all right, now, Pastor, I need you to smile, and
14 I'm -- I'm like, I don't feel like smiling, and we --
15 we talked, and we talked about things that pertained to
16 the church and then we talked about things that did
17 not.

18 She'd call me and check on me and I'd call
19 and check on her. If I didn't need to see her during
20 the week at a meeting or something, I'd call her just
21 to make sure she was okay, call to make sure school was
22 okay, you know. It was -- it was a situation where if
23 a pastor needed a friend she was there.

24 Q And did you know Mrs. Williams' parents,
25 Wilbert and Gloria?

1 A I did.

2 Q How do you know them?

3 A They're members.

4 Q How did you view Gloria's relationship with
5 her parents?

6 A I thought it was great, it was awesome. A
7 lot of times I'd say, you know, I just want the
8 strength to be able to do that, because if -- if
9 Ms. Gloria went to the hospital, if Ms. Glo went to the
10 hospital, Quita orchestrated care, who was going to sit
11 with her, who was going to be bringing food, who was
12 going to monitor her at night, but then she also made
13 sure that there was somebody taking care of her father,
14 because he may get on the road and decide he wants to
15 drive there or he may stay home, and she made sure that
16 all of that worked in sync, and it seemed like it was
17 smooth sailing always.

18 Q How did you view Alexis' relationship with
19 her grandparents?

20 A Well, it was cute. She calls him daddy.
21 That's the only name I know her to call him. I've
22 never heard her call him granddad or anything. She'll
23 come in, hey, Daddy. Sometimes, you know, I still I
24 miss hearing when the door opens. And she calls her
25 granny.

1 If daddy needs something or granny needs
2 something she's -- she's there. She's sat with Wilbert
3 when Glo was in the hospital and vice versa. You know,
4 it's a loving relationship, you know, you couldn't ask
5 for anything more. She's loving with her -- with her
6 aunts. She's loving with her cousins and friends.
7 That's just how it is.

8 Q Did it seem like a pretty tight-knit family?

9 A Yeah, to be honest, it is.

10 Q And, Pastor, we're obviously here because
11 Mrs. Williams has entered a plea of guilty to two
12 counts of the information, that being kidnapping and
13 child interference.

14 A Uh-huh.

15 Q How did you learn about the news?

16 A I was at the hospital in Orangeburg visiting
17 with a parishioner, and the lady was in ICU, and I got
18 a phone call, and of course I ignored it because I'm in
19 ICU. My phone kept ringing and kept ringing, and when
20 I finally answered it was her cousin asking me where
21 was I, what was I doing and if I was watching TV. I
22 told her that I was in ICU in Columbia, what are you
23 talking about, what's going on, and she said, step out
24 and look at the TV, she said, you know, Quita just got
25 arrested, and I was like, what for.

1 Kidnapping.

2 Who?

3 Alexis.

4 And I looked at the TV. I went back in the
5 patient's room. I stayed there for about ten minutes
6 and said a prayer for the family, walked out of the
7 hospital. My mom and I got in the car and I
8 immediately called by district superintendent, and
9 while driving down the interstate, at a speed that I
10 will not tell anybody, I was able to get to Ashley
11 Ridge, which is in Somerville, and get back to
12 Walterboro before her arraignment because I wanted to
13 make sure I was there because I felt somebody needed to
14 be there for Alexis.

15 Q And what did you think of all the news?

16 A I'm still baffled by it, trying to, you know,
17 trying to wrap your head around things. At first I
18 said, no, it's not true, they've got the wrong person.
19 Then when the stories unravelled and you see things on
20 the news I said, well, I'm not sure where she was in
21 that time in her life because I did not know her then,
22 but the person that I knew now, that's not that person.

23 Q And who is the person that you know now?

24 A The person I know now, the person I still
25 write and contact is a loving, caring, God-fearing

1 woman, you know, she -- she's an encouragement, because
2 when all of this happened, when other people was
3 getting mad and getting angry, she told her mom to ask
4 the church if they would buy her two Bibles. I'm not
5 sitting here saying that's all she wants, but two
6 Bibles is what she asked me, and I said, okay, and I
7 told her mom don't worry about it, I'll buy the Bibles,
8 because if you're going to remember who God is and
9 you're trying to get closer to God, even closer than
10 you already are, then I know you're in a good place.

11 I'm sorry this happened, but at least I know
12 you're still in a good place, and to me, as a pastor,
13 that's a wonderful thing to hear when someone says they
14 want to get closer to God, even in the midst of going
15 through a terrible situation, because other people
16 would usually go away, other people would go the other
17 direction, but she wrote and said that she was -- she
18 was reading her Bibles and she was studying. She was
19 understanding a little bit more about what those
20 sermons meant on Sunday morning, and that was a great
21 relief because I understood now that she's getting
22 stronger. You know, the Bible tells us that when we're
23 weakest be stronger, and I'm thankful that she is
24 getting stronger.

25 Q And how has Mrs. Williams' incarceration over

1 the last 16 months affected you?

2 A I've lost a friend, not -- no, I have not
3 lost a friend because I know where she is, but I don't
4 have that ray of sunshine that I used to. You know,
5 it's you have to be there to understand the way the
6 church is configured. I don't close my door when I
7 come in, my door stays open to my office. If the
8 office door is closed, I'm in counsel, they know that.

9 So every morning on Sunday morning when
10 people are coming in they have the opportunity to stick
11 their head in and say hi, Pastor, or can I have a
12 minute or ask a question, and I still wait for the door
13 to open and her to come through with curly hair, all
14 smiles, saying, okay, what we going to do today. I
15 tried to get her in choir, but she said she can't sing,
16 so I know I won't be able to do that, but I really miss
17 her.

18 Q And have you noticed any affect that it's had
19 on your daughter?

20 A Yes.

21 Q And what is that?

22 A When it first happened Ar'Mune was mad
23 because she said that you-all arrested the wrong
24 person, and I had to explain to her that we had to
25 first find out what was going on, and then she got

1 worried about Alexis because she didn't know where
2 Alexis was or what was happening, and then she was
3 like, okay, mom, what's mom going to -- you know,
4 what's mom going to do, you know, how they going to
5 take care of mama, you know, you know, mom needs her
6 medicine, mom needs that, mom needs that, and I kept
7 telling her it's going to be okay.

8 And when we got the first letters with her
9 address, I think Ar'Mune wrote her a letter or
10 something and Ar'Mune was like, okay, now, we got to go
11 down there and we got to see her, and I told her, I
12 said, as soon as we can we will, but let's get through
13 this, and that way we can actually spend time with her.

14 So she's -- she's okay, but she misses her
15 friend. She misses being able to go over to their
16 house and eat dinner. She misses being able to talk to
17 Gloria about things. So apparently she was able to
18 talk to Gloria about things that she couldn't talk to
19 me about, which is a wonderful thing, I encourage it,
20 just as long, you know, as I knew that if it was
21 something that eventually she would come and tell me,
22 but she misses that, she misses being able to be there.

23 Q And, Pastor White, is there anything else
24 that you think the Court should know about
25 Mrs. Williams before imposing sentence?

1 A My members tell me I'm a bucket of water.
2 I've only been with them five years. Some people say,
3 okay, that's a short period of time, but I'm a hands-on
4 pastor, and I know from being in their homes, being in
5 their hospital rooms, I know the affect that this has
6 happened -- this has had on our church, to the point
7 where I'm pretty sure I have about two groups right now
8 that are praying and praying and praying.

9 We understand, yes, something wrong happened,
10 we understand, we don't know why, but we understand,
11 but we also understand that her mom and her dad,
12 they're doing the best they can. Her aunts, they're
13 doing the best they can. The membership is doing the
14 best they can, but they really pray and wish and hope
15 that she's able to not receive the maximum, that way
16 she can come back and be valuable in the church, that
17 way she can come back and still be able to pick up her
18 job or by then they may have a new ministry, that way
19 she can come back and spend time with her parents, that
20 way she can come back and be a part of Ruffin, be a
21 part of the Walterboro community, because they really
22 miss her they really really miss her. She was a large
23 part before I even got there. So I stepped into
24 greatness and they miss that. They miss that so much.
25 They really do.

1 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you, Pastor.

2 That's all I have, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Thank you, Counsel.

4 You may inquire.

5 MR. MIZRAHI: Thank you.

6 CROSS-EXAMINATION

7 BY MR. MIZRAHI:

8 Q Reverend White, you testified that Alexis,
9 and I'm going to use Kamiyah if that's all right.

10 A That's fine.

11 Q That Kamiyah was everyone's baby in the
12 church. Do you remember that?

13 A She was.

14 Q Okay.

15 A Uh-huh.

16 Q Except for her biological mother, biological
17 father, biological grandparents and the people that
18 were rightfully supposed to be her caregivers, correct?

19 A No.

20 Q No?

21 A The way that you posed the question --

22 Q They felt that -- no?

23 A The way that you're posing that question, the
24 way that I'm understanding, let me make sure I'm
25 answering correctly.

1 Q Okay. Go ahead.

2 A Because you're saying that she was not the
3 grandchild, the child of the biological parents; am I
4 correct?

5 Q Correct, because she was stolen and they
6 didn't know where she was.

7 A Okay. Technically, she is still and will
8 always be their grandchild and their child, but she was
9 not maybe in their -- in the possession of. You've got
10 to understand, if I gave birth to a child and I gave
11 that child up for adoption, that is still technically a
12 child that I gave birth to, that's still technically my
13 child. I may not have that child in my possession.
14 That's what I'm understanding.

15 Q No, ma'am.

16 A My understanding --

17 Q No, ma'am. You saw Shanara Mobley's
18 testimony, did you not? Were you sitting in the
19 courtroom for that?

20 A I saw it. I listened to her testimony.

21 Q Did it look like she gave up her child for
22 adoption?

23 A No, she didn't.

24 Q Okay. Okay. So my question --

25 A But my understanding is --

1 Q Hold on, hold on. The point of the matter --

2 MS. JOHNSON: Objection, Your Honor. Counsel
3 is being argumentative.

4 MR. MIZRAHI: Well, I mean --

5 THE WITNESS: I mean, the way he asked the
6 question.

7 THE COURT: If we could stop for a minute.

8 I am very sensitive in understanding that
9 this is a highly emotionally day for everyone.

10 THE WITNESS: Right.

11 THE COURT: But just listen, but what we're
12 going to do is we're going to follow the law and
13 we're going to proceed in a methodical manner
14 because I am busy taking all of this information
15 in. I am listening intently and processing all of
16 this, so it will help me if I can have the question
17 finished, a very short pause, and then the answer.
18 I'm listening very carefully to what you're saying,
19 what all the witnesses, all the attorneys are
20 saying, but I cannot understand everything that is
21 being said if things are being said on top of one
22 another.

23 This happens often in trials. It's very
24 common. It's something that we handle. It's not a
25 problem, but let's just have a very brief pause

1 after the end of the question and then a very brief
2 pause after the end of the answer. And we have as
3 much time as we need and I am here to listen.

4 MR. MIZRAHI: Thank you, Your Honor.

5 BY MR. MIZRAHI:

6 Q So, Reverend White, you would agree that in
7 2014 the biological family of Kamiyah Mobley had no
8 idea if she was dead or alive, correct?

9 A I -- correct.

10 Q And that they had no ability to be a parent
11 or grandparent to their child, correct, in 2014? I'm
12 not saying now, I'm saying then.

13 A She was not in their possession.

14 Q Okay. I'm not talking about a television set
15 that's in someone's possession. How can you be a
16 parent to a child if you don't know if that child is
17 dead or alive because they've been kidnapped from you?
18 Can you explain that?

19 A See, that's where I'm getting confused. They
20 did not know where she was, yes, correct. She was
21 alive, yes, correct. They were her biological, still
22 are her biological, correct. They didn't know where
23 she was, correct, but being that she's still alive,
24 they can still consider themselves parents,
25 grandparents because she exists. Even if she didn't

1 exist, they can still consider themselves that.

2 Q Okay.

3 A At least that's how my understanding is. If
4 that's not how you're asking it, I do apologize.

5 Q It doesn't matter.

6 You do a background check on the people who
7 work around kids in your churches, correct?

8 A Yes, sir, a background is done.

9 Q And she wouldn't pass that background check
10 now, correct?

11 A Mostly likely not, no.

12 Q Now, you can correct me if I'm wrong and I'll
13 defer to your expertise, but would you not agree that
14 the point of your church is through a relationship with
15 God and you leading a moral and decent life?

16 A Correct.

17 Q And that although Gloria Williams may have
18 been active in your church, every single minute of
19 every single day she was grossly violating that moral
20 code, correct?

21 A She sinned.

22 Q She sinned --

23 A She committed a sin.

24 Q -- in a horrible way, correct?

25 A She committed a sin.

1 Q Okay. Well, you would agree that there is
2 degrees of sin?

3 A No, sir.

4 Q Not at all, there is no degree?

5 A No, sir. Sin is sin.

6 Q Okay. So every sin is equal?

7 A Every sin is equal.

8 Q Okay. But certainly as a pastor your hope
9 and your job is to help your parishioners overcome sin,
10 correct?

11 A We will sin and fall short daily. Everyone
12 is going to make a mistake every day. Sin is sin. The
13 deal is that you repent for your sins and ask for
14 forgiveness.

15 Q Okay. Would not have been a repenting of a
16 sin in this particular case for Gloria Williams to have
17 returned Kamiyah Mobley?

18 A Repenting of your sin is going to God.

19 Q Okay. Well, I'm talking about to man.

20 A For man?

21 Q Yeah.

22 A Okay. That's different.

23 Q Well, would she have not repented to man if
24 she had brought this child back?

25 A If she had brought the child back, that would

1 be relinquishing the child. Repentance is to God.

2 Q Okay. You don't think God cares how we treat
3 each other?

4 A God does care how we treat each other.

5 Q So God, do you think that God would want her
6 to return that child as soon as she could, as soon as
7 she would?

8 A As soon as she would.

9 Q Okay.

10 A And if she asked for God's forgiveness, God
11 would forgive her.

12 Q Well, I understand that, but would it not be
13 better for her to have returned the child immediately?

14 A And when she did, if she asked God for
15 forgiveness, God would forgive her.

16 Q You stated that the person that you know now
17 is not the person that is, I guess, charged with
18 kidnapping; is that correct?

19 A The person that I know now, the person that
20 committed this crime, I did not know her then. She was
21 not on my radar then. We weren't in contact then.

22 Q That's okay.

23 A So I can't speak to that individual.

24 Q Correct.

25 A The individual that I can speak to is the

1 individual that I've met who introduced me to a
2 wonderful young lady and that we know that that was her
3 daughter.

4 Q Okay.

5 A That's the person that I know.

6 Q Okay. And that's what I'm saying. So you
7 don't know the person in 1998?

8 A No.

9 Q But you know the person in 2014, correct?

10 A Correct.

11 Q And the person in 2014 was still daily
12 perpetrating a fraud of kidnapping upon this family,
13 correct?

14 A Correct.

15 Q Okay. So the person that you knew was
16 concealing that fact from you?

17 A Correct.

18 Q Okay. Now, you say that she's in a terrible
19 situation. You would agree that that terrible
20 situation is 100 percent on her shoulders and her
21 fault, correct?

22 A It's her sin, yes.

23 Q Okay. Nobody else's?

24 A Correct.

25 Q It's not Kamiyah Mobley's fault?

1 A Of course not.

2 Q It's not Shanara Mobley's fault?

3 A Of course not.

4 Q Okay. It's her fault?

5 A Correct.

6 Q And any suffering that goes on in her family

7 is her responsibility, correct?

8 A We are all going to suffer regardless of

9 whatever family it is.

10 Q Okay.

11 A So anything that she does or anything that

12 she has done is not only affecting her family it

13 affects the other family as well, the Mobley family and

14 Aiken family, it affects every family that it is in

15 Walterboro, every family that could be watching this

16 newscast, it's going to affect everybody in some way,

17 shape or form, so anything that is done does affect

18 anyone.

19 Q Well, I understand, but my question is that

20 it's her responsibility and nobody else's?

21 A Then I don't understand your question.

22 Q Okay. When you sit around and you indicated

23 that you prayed a lot for Gloria Williams and her

24 family, I assume that you in the back of your mind said

25 some prayer for the Mobley and Aiken families as well,

1 correct?

2 A That is not an assumption. I can guarantee
3 you that when I pray at Buckhead United Methodist
4 Church, Hickory Hill or anywhere I pray for both sides,
5 because both sides have been damaged, both sides hurt,
6 both sides need healing, both sides need to understand
7 forgiveness, and I pray for everyone. There is no just
8 pray for one person involved, so, please, sir, don't do
9 that.

10 Q Well, I said I assumed, that I believed that
11 to be the case.

12 A That is true.

13 Q That's why I asked the question is because I
14 would assume that you would, as a woman of God, that
15 you would recognize the pain and heartache that has
16 gone on with the Mobley and Aiken family and you would
17 say prayers for their healing?

18 A I did and I do.

19 Q And I would pray that you would do that, so I
20 thank you for that.

21 Would you -- can you even begin to imagine
22 the heartache that they suffered?

23 A No, I cannot.

24 Q Okay. That's all.

25 A I cannot, but listening to her and being a

1 parent, I can understand and I can -- I can empathize
2 because I hear the pain, I hear the hurt, and for that
3 I pray and I ask God to lessen her pain and lighten
4 her, but for you to stand here and kind of be a little
5 sarcastic about the fact that I pray for someone or
6 that what I believe or what I know, sir, I do
7 apologize, but if I don't understand the question, I'm
8 going to tell you I don't understand.

9 Q And I don't want you to criticize me for
10 being sarcastic. I was just trying to figure out if
11 you understood the damage that was caused in this case,
12 and you've answered that question.

13 A Yes.

14 Q Okay. Because I want to make it clear the
15 victim in this case is not Gloria Williams.

16 A I never said she was.

17 Q Okay. That's what I wanted to be clear on.
18 Then we're on the same page, right, and thank you so
19 much for your time.

20 MR. MIZRAHI: That's all the questions I have,
21 Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Thank you, Counsel.

23 Any further questions for this witness?

24 MS. JOHNSON: If we can have one moment.

25 THE COURT: Of course.

1 (Ms. Johnson conferring with Mr. Lufrano.)

2 MS. JOHNSON: Just briefly, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Of course.

4 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

5 BY MS. JOHNSON:

6 Q And, Pastor White, knowing everything and
7 hearing everything that you have, you've heard today,
8 when Mrs. Williams is ultimately released from custody,
9 are you still going to be part of her support system?

10 A Definitely.

11 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Johnson.

13 Anything further, Mr. Mizrahi?

14 MR. MIZRAHI: Nothing further, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: I think it's a good time for an
16 afternoon break.

17 Thank you so much for your time.

18 It's 3:01 p.m. Why don't we come back at
19 3:15, so just under 15 minutes. We're in recess
20 until 3:15.

21 (Whereupon, a short recess was had, after
22 which the proceedings were resumed as follows:)

23 (Defendant present.)

24 THE COURT: Good afternoon.

25 Please be seated if you wish.

1 All the attorneys who entered their
2 appearances today are present and Ms. Williams is
3 present.

4 Counsel, you may proceed with your next
5 witness if you're ready to proceed.

6 MS. JOHNSON: Yes, Your Honor.

7 I have with me Defendant's Exhibit 7. The
8 State has no objection. It is a letter from Susan
9 Aus, who is the aunt of Mrs. Williams, and if I
10 could just read that into the record at this time.

11 THE COURT: Any objection --

12 MR. MIZRAHI: No, Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: -- Mr. Mizrahi?

14 MR. MIZRAHI: No, Your Honor.

15 (Whereupon, the document last-above referred
16 to was received in evidence as Defendant's Exhibit
17 No. 7.)

18 THE COURT: You may proceed.

19 MS. JOHNSON: It says: This document contains
20 information that I know of Gloria Williams. She is
21 my niece and thought of as her -- and I am thought
22 of as her big sister. I knew her from birth. At
23 the age of three years old I became her babysitter.
24 I would be her babysitter during my summer vacation
25 from school. She and I became very close.

1 After my graduating from high school from
2 Ruffin High School in 1970, she spent her summers
3 at my father's and mother's house during the summer
4 months, and I resided with my sister and
5 brother-in-law, Gloria and Wilbert Brown, her
6 parents, and Gloria Williams, and I shared the same
7 bedroom with two twin white and gold princess
8 single beds until I was married in 1974, at which
9 time I moved into my own place. However, she spent
10 numerous weekends with me during my marriage. Even
11 after she was grown and married to her sons'
12 father, she would bring her boys over to spend
13 weekends with me.

14 I know Gloria as being a very compassionate
15 individual, always with a caring heart. She loved
16 children, even those that were a few years older
17 than herself. She was like a mother hen, always
18 trying to protect someone.

19 For instance, back in 1985 I received major
20 surgery and had to stay at her parents because I
21 needed constant care and my sister was supposed to
22 take care of me and make sure I was showered and
23 had my bandages changed; however, my sister --
24 however, my sister was and still is a little timid
25 when it comes to caring for family with wounds or

1 very ill, but Gloria, being the compassionate
2 person that she is, was a teenager, and she stepped
3 right in and took care of me until I was able to go
4 back to my home.

5 In 2002 I moved back to Ruffin, South
6 Carolina, and once again I stayed with my sister
7 Gloria and her husband, my brother-in-law Wilbert,
8 at which time Gloria lived across the street from
9 her parents. In 2004 I was diagnosed with a
10 disease called ADN and my hip broke, and once again
11 Gloria came to my rescue, because I was home alone
12 and she left a wedding reception and came to take
13 me to Colleton Medical Center, the nearest
14 hospital.

15 Gloria was very active in our church and she
16 was the coordinator over the children and youth.
17 She was trusted with the children at church, as
18 well as in the community. She always had a
19 positive attitude to encourage even the least of
20 them. Gloria is a perfect example of what a single
21 parent should be. She carried a smile that would
22 melt your heart.

23 My prayer is that once this is all behind her
24 and she will get the opportunity to spread that
25 beautiful smile wherever she goes, not because she

1 is my niece or sister, but because she is genuinely
2 a nice person, and if she can help a person in any
3 way she will, and if she can't do it directly she
4 will get to the source so that she can assist you.

5 Gloria is one of 15 nieces and 7 nephews that
6 I actually had a hand helping most of my siblings
7 and their spouses raise their children. Even
8 though I did not birth any of my own, I say that
9 they're all mine. Our family is blessed because,
10 to my knowledge, we do not have any that are on
11 drugs or homeless. Our family are supportive of
12 each other and I know that we encourage them all,
13 even the great-grands, to lead well-rounded and
14 productive lives.

15 Thank you for the opportunity to share just a
16 few of the attributes that I know of Gloria Brown
17 Williams. If I can further assist you in any way
18 or give any additional information, please do not
19 hesitate to let me know. Thank you again, Susan
20 Stephen Aus.

21 THE COURT: Very well.

22 And this will be in evidence as Defense
23 Exhibit 7.

24 MS. JOHNSON: Yes, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: Very well.

1 MS. JOHNSON: And, Your Honor, we would next
2 call Mr. Wernoskie Williams.

3 THE COURT: Very well.

4 Good afternoon.

5 MR. WILLIAMS: How are you doing, Your Honor?

6 THE COURT: Very well.

7 If you'll come forward Madam Clerk will swear
8 you in, and then if you'll please be seated.

9 OFFICER CHAMBERS: Just stand there and raise
10 your right hand.

11 **WERNOSKIE WILLIAMS,**

12 having been produced and first duly sworn as a witness,
13 testified as follows:

14 OFFICER CHAMBERS: Step right around over
15 there and watch your step.

16 DIRECT EXAMINATION

17 BY MS. JOHNSON:

18 Q Good afternoon, Mr. Williams.

19 Will you please state your name for the
20 record?

21 A Wernoskie Conaby Williams.

22 Q And will you spell that for us?

23 A W-E-R-N-O-S-K-I-E C-O-N-A-B-Y, Williams
24 W-I-L-L-I-A-M-S.

25 Q And are there any nicknames that you go by?

1 A Oskie.

2 Q How old are you, Mr. Williams?

3 A Fifty-five.

4 Q And where do you reside?

5 A Walterboro, South Carolina.

6 Q Is that where you were raised?

7 A I was raised in Hampton County.

8 Q And how far away is that from Walterboro?

9 A About 35 minutes from Walterboro.

10 Q And do you still have family in Hampton?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Are you married?

13 A Yes, I am.

14 Q And who are you married to?

15 A My wonderful wife Gloria B. Williams.

16 Q And how long have you guys been married?

17 A About six years.

18 Q Are you currently employed?

19 A Yes, I am.

20 Q And where is that?

21 A Nimmer Turf, Grass, Sod Company.

22 Q And what do you do for them?

23 A Truck driver.

24 Q How long have you been a truck driver?

25 A Since '90 -- 1992.

1 Q And, Mr. Williams, do you have any hobbies?

2 A Yes. I have a gospel group, I sing a whole
3 lot, ride motorcycles, just be with all my friends.

4 Q And do you -- are you involved in a
5 motorcycle club?

6 A Yes, I am.

7 Q What is that?

8 A Knee Bruers.

9 Q And what type of things --

10 (Reporter asks for clarification.)

11 THE WITNESS: L -- I mean K-N-E-E B-R-U-E-R-S.

12 BY MS. JOHNSON:

13 Q And what kind of activities do you do with
14 that motorcycle club?

15 A We do fundraisers. We do charity ride. We
16 clean up in the communities. We help families where
17 needed. If they have a sick member we will help them
18 with the bill, whatever it costs, you know, we'll try
19 the best we can to help them.

20 Q And you said you were -- you've been married
21 to Mrs. Williams for six years?

22 A Yes.

23 Q And before that, how long did you date?

24 A It may have been about a year, a year and a
25 half.

1 Q And how is it that you met Mrs. Williams?

2 A My motorcycle club. We had a function one
3 night and the owner of the club had invited the
4 motorcycle club. So we went there and I was talking to
5 her aunt and some more other people in the club that I
6 knew, and I was looking at her, and well, I didn't say
7 anything right then, you know, and later on I asked her
8 aunt, you know, who was she. So her aunt had told me,
9 so she gave her number to my cousin and my cousin gave
10 it to me, and I called her and I invited her to my
11 gospel program and she came and we hit it off from
12 there.

13 Q And who, which aunt was that?

14 A I beg your pardon?

15 Q Who, which aunt was that that --

16 A Susan, Susan Aus.

17 Q So Mrs. Williams went to your gospel group
18 and...

19 A Yes, she comes to my gospel programs.

20 Q And what kind of -- outside of going to your
21 gospel group, during your year and a half of courtship,
22 did you have an opportunity to meet her children?

23 A Yes.

24 Q And who were those children?

25 A Antoine and -- I forgot the other one's name

1 right now. We -- we hit it off good, you know, I loved
2 them, yeah.

3 Q And when you were dating Ms. Williams, where
4 did you reside?

5 A In Hampton.

6 Q And where was she living?

7 A She was living in Ruffin with her mother and
8 her father.

9 Q And did she have a female child with her?

10 A And what?

11 Q Did she have a female child at that time?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Alexis?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Ultimately, when you married Mrs. Williams,
16 did you guys move to Hampton? Did she move to Hampton?

17 A Yes, we was staying in Hampton.

18 Q And was -- did that require a change in
19 school for her daughter?

20 A No.

21 Q Why is that?

22 A Well, she was working at Veteran Victory
23 House and the school is right down the road from the --
24 from her job, so she would take her, take her to
25 school, then she would go to work.

1 Q So otherwise she would have had to change
2 schools but for Gloria, Mrs. Williams taking her to
3 Colleton County?

4 A Right.

5 Q Tell us about your relationship with
6 Mrs. Williams.

7 A Well, we have a good relationship. We have a
8 great relationship. We go to church together. I would
9 go to her church on the first and third Sunday and she
10 would go to my church on the second and the fourth
11 Sunday, and we have a great relationship.

12 Q What kind of things would you guys do
13 together?

14 A Well, she'd go to my gospel program. We'd
15 ride bikes together. We'd go shopping together.
16 Sometimes we don't have no money but we go window
17 shopping and it feels just as good, but we be together
18 and have a good time with each other.

19 Q Was Mrs. Williams employed?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Where was she working?

22 A She was at Veterans Victory House.

23 Q And what was that?

24 A What she doing was there?

25 Q Yes.

- 1 A Administrator.
- 2 Q And is that a nursing home?
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 Q And was she working full time?
- 5 A Yes, she was.
- 6 Q And did you also know her to be in school?
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 Q Where was she going to school?
- 9 A Limestone College.
- 10 Q Why was she attending school? How old was
- 11 she when she went back to school?
- 12 A Well, she -- when she went back she was a
- 13 good student. She graduated.
- 14 Q How old was she when she went back to school?
- 15 A I want to say about probably 50, 52,
- 16 something like that.
- 17 Q And what do you think prompted her to go back
- 18 to school?
- 19 A What do I what?
- 20 Q What do you think prompted her to go back to
- 21 school?
- 22 A Well, she said she wanted to go back to
- 23 school because she wanted to do better in life, she
- 24 wanted to help her family more, and just be happy.
- 25 Q Did you know Mrs. Williams to use drugs?

- 1 A No.
- 2 Q Did you know Mrs. Williams to abuse alcohol?
- 3 A No.
- 4 Q Did you attend her college graduation?
- 5 A Yes, I did.
- 6 Q Who else was in attendance of that?
- 7 A If I'm not mistaken, I believe her mother and
8 pop was there, Lexi was there, yeah.
- 9 Q And you-all watched her cross the aisle or
10 cross the --
- 11 A Yes, she did.
- 12 Q Great.
- 13 How was Gloria's relationship with her
14 parents?
- 15 A Good relationship. She looked out for them.
16 Daddy, you taking your medicine?
17 Mama, you taking your medicine?
18 She's always concerned about, you know, their
19 well-being, and that's just the kind of a person she
20 is.
- 21 Q And now that she's been incarcerated, have
22 you been trying to assist her parents in any way?
- 23 A Oh, yeah.
- 24 Q And how so?
- 25 A I go cut their grass. I ask them to see what

1 else I need to do, what you-all need for me to do, just
2 let me know. If anything else need to be done, I'll
3 take care of it, but I do assist them a whole lot.

4 Q Do you recall how old Alexis was when you
5 entered her life?

6 A She was like around eight or nine, somewhere
7 along there.

8 Q And how would you describe Gloria and Alexis'
9 relationship?

10 A They had a great relationship together.

11 Q Did Alexis seem to respect her?

12 A Oh, yeah.

13 Q And did she mind her?

14 A I beg your pardon?

15 Q Did she mind her?

16 A Yeah.

17 Q Did Alexis seem well cared for?

18 A Oh, yes.

19 Q And living in the same home with them, did
20 you notice any odd forms of punishment?

21 A No.

22 Q Any abuse?

23 A No.

24 Q Did Alexis go to the doctor regularly?

25 A Yes.

1 Q And did she have regular dental checkups?

2 A Yes, she did.

3 Q And does she, in fact, wear braces?

4 A Yes, ma'am.

5 Q And how -- what was -- how was she paying for
6 those braces previously?

7 A I don't know how much it was, but I would
8 help, you know, with the bill when it come to the
9 house.

10 Q Prior to that, was that through Gloria's
11 insurance?

12 A Yes.

13 Q But since then you have been assisting with
14 paying the bill?

15 A If Lexi would come to me, you know, mostly I
16 need some help with the dental, with her braces, I
17 said, okay, you know, just let me know something and
18 I'll give it to mother and pop and we'll see what we
19 can do.

20 Q Did Alexis attend church with you and Gloria?

21 A Yes, she -- she would go to church with us,
22 my church and Buckhead.

23 Q And do you recall in high school whether she
24 attended any school dances or proms?

25 A Prom, yeah.

- 1 Q And did she have to get a new dress for that?
- 2 A Yes.
- 3 Q And did she want her hair done for that?
- 4 A Yes.
- 5 Q And did she want new shoes for that?
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 Q And who -- who paid for that?
- 8 A Who had -- who had did what?
- 9 Q Who paid for that?
- 10 A I believe my wife had picked it up.
- 11 Q Mrs. Williams helped out with that?
- 12 A Yeah.
- 13 Q And for Alexis' high school graduation, were
- 14 there things that you guys had to provide for?
- 15 A Yes, ma'am.
- 16 Q Such as a cap and gown?
- 17 A Uh-huh.
- 18 Q And a graduation party?
- 19 A Yes.
- 20 Q Who paid for that?
- 21 A My wife and I.
- 22 Q And, Mr. Williams, do you have other
- 23 children?
- 24 A I have two daughters.
- 25 Q And what are their ages?

1 A Erica Williams and Zikela Henderson.

2 Q And what are their ages?

3 A Erica, she's 25, and Zikela, she is 12.

4 Q And does Erica have any children?

5 A Yes.

6 Q And how old are her children?

7 A Michia, he's seven, Aiden, he's three.

8 Q And what was their relationship with your

9 wife?

10 A Great. They loved to be around her. They

11 want to come over to the house all the time, and she

12 would fix them something to eat. Granny, I'm hungry

13 and, I mean, that wasn't no problem, you know, yes.

14 Q Did she -- did you guys babysit for them

15 often?

16 A Yes, we did.

17 Q How was Mrs. Williams as a grandparent to

18 them?

19 A I beg your pardon?

20 Q How was she as a grandparent to them?

21 A It was good. It was good.

22 Q Does she have other grandchildren as well?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Did she treat Erica's children any

25 differently than she treated Antoine or Andre's

1 children?

2 A No, we would treat all of them just the same.

3 Q And, Mr. Williams, obviously we are here
4 today because your wife has entered a plea of guilty to
5 the charge of kidnapping, as well as interference of
6 custody. How did you learn the news to that crime?

7 A Well, I want my wife to come home, Your
8 Honor. I realize that she made a mistake, and if you
9 would be lenient on her, I would be more than happy to
10 see she comes back to 914 North Lemacks Street in
11 Walterboro, South Carolina.

12 Q And how did you learn the news of this crime
13 though?

14 A I learned one day we was -- I came home from
15 work and her and Lexi was on the porch, and so she was
16 crying and so I got out of my car and I said, what's
17 going on, baby?

18 She said, baby, I made a mistake. I made a
19 mistake.

20 So Lexis was telling her, mama, it's going to
21 be okay. It's going to be okay.

22 And so she said, well, baby, I made a
23 mistake.

24 I said, it's going to be okay, baby, you
25 know, it's going to be all right.

1 And we left it at that. I went in the house.

2 Q Were you shocked by the news?

3 A I beg your pardon?

4 Q Were you shocked by the news?

5 A Yes, I was shocked, but there wasn't nothing
6 that I could do. I couldn't say no more, you know, but
7 it's going to be all right, baby.

8 Q And so you were just being supportive of your
9 wife?

10 A Right.

11 Q Does it seem out of character for the person
12 that you knew?

13 A I beg your pardon?

14 Q Did it seem out of character for the person
15 that you knew?

16 A Yeah, yes, ma'am.

17 Q How so?

18 A Well, I didn't know anything until that time,
19 but it -- it -- it hurt, but I had to be strong for
20 her.

21 Q And how has your life changed over the last
22 16 months during Gloria's incarceration?

23 A It was a roller coaster, I've been up and
24 down, but life must go on, and I have to keep myself
25 going to support her and my family.

1 Q And have you driven up almost every Saturday
2 for the last 16 months?

3 A Every Saturday to come see my wife.

4 Q Are you keeping up with the house?

5 A Yes, ma'am.

6 Q Are you keeping up with the vehicles?

7 A Everything, with the bills, everything.

8 Q Are you mad at her now for this situation?

9 A I beg your pardon?

10 Q Are you mad at her now for this situation?

11 A No, not at all.

12 Q Do you forgive her?

13 A Every time.

14 Q And if she's ultimately released, does she
15 still have a home to come home to to you? Does she
16 still have a home to come home to you?

17 A Oh, yeah.

18 Q You will still be a part of her support
19 system?

20 A All the time.

21 Q And is there anything else that you think the
22 Court should know about your wife before imposing
23 sentence?

24 A Well, she's a good woman, she's a good woman.
25 She made a mistake, and I feel like she deserves a

1 second chance.

2 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you.

3 THE COURT: Thank you, Counsel.

4 You may inquire.

5 MR. MIZRAHI: Thank you, Your Honor.

6 CROSS-EXAMINATION

7 BY MR. MIZRAHI:

8 Q Mr. Williams, if I heard you correctly, when
9 you first found out the news the information was coming
10 to you on the porch with your stepdaughter and your
11 wife, correct?

12 A Yes, sir.

13 Q And the three of you-all were on the porch
14 together?

15 A Yes, sir.

16 Q And your stepdaughter was upset?

17 A No, she wasn't upset.

18 Q Just your wife was upset?

19 A Yeah, she was crying.

20 Q Because I thought you said that Lexi was
21 crying?

22 A I didn't say that.

23 Q Okay. That's why I was -- I was making sure.
24 You testified that she made a mistake?

25 A Yes.

1 Q You would acknowledge that that mistake was
2 for 18 years, 365 days in all those 18 years, correct?

3 A I can understand that.

4 Q All right. And you found out how long before
5 Ms. Williams was arrested?

6 A About a year and -- about a year and a half,
7 a year and about four months ago, somewhere along
8 there.

9 Q All right. Why didn't you do anything?

10 A That's my wife.

11 Q So you just made a decision to support her?

12 A That's right.

13 Q Okay. You acknowledge that had you told the
14 Mobley and Aiken family would have known the location
15 of their daughter a year and three months earlier?

16 A Say what now?

17 Q Had you told as soon as you found out, in
18 other words, inform the authorities, that the Mobley
19 and Aiken family would have found out about Kamiyah
20 Mobley maybe 15 months earlier?

21 A I don't know.

22 MR. MIZRAHI: Okay. That's all the questions
23 I have, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: Thank you, Counsel.

25 Anything further?

1 MS. JOHNSON: No further questions, Your
2 Honor.

3 THE COURT: Thank you for your time.

4 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

5 MS. JOHNSON: Next we would call Antoine
6 Bolden, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Very well.

8 Good afternoon.

9 MR. BOLDEN: Hey.
10 How are you doing?

11 THE COURT: Very well.

12 Madam Clerk will swear you in, and then if
13 you'll please be seated.

14 MR. BOLDEN: That's fine.

15 OFFICER CHAMBERS: Raise your right hand,
16 sir.

17 **ANTOINE BOLDEN,**
18 having been produced and first duly sworn as a witness,
19 testified as follows:

20 OFFICER CHAMBERS: Step around here and watch
21 your step.

22 DIRECT EXAMINATION

23 BY MS. JOHNSON:

24 Q Good afternoon.

25 Please state your full name for the record.

- 1 A Antoine Jerell Bolden.
- 2 Q And will you spell that?
- 3 A A-N-T-O-I-N-E, middle initial J., last name
- 4 Bolden, B-O-L-D-E-N.
- 5 Q And how old are you, Mr. Bolden?
- 6 A Twenty-nine.
- 7 Q And where do you currently reside?
- 8 A Charlotte, North Carolina.
- 9 Q Have you ever served in the military?
- 10 A Yes, ma'am.
- 11 Q And which branch?
- 12 A Army.
- 13 Q And how were you discharged?
- 14 A General honorable condition.
- 15 Q And are you currently employed?
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 Q And where is that?
- 18 A L-3 Vertex Aerospace.
- 19 Q And what do you do for them?
- 20 A Material coordinator 2.
- 21 Q Is that through the Department of Defense?
- 22 A Yes.
- 23 Q And how long have you been a contractor
- 24 through the Department of Defense?
- 25 A August '17, August 11th, '17.

- 1 Q And do you know Gloria Brown Williams?
- 2 A Yes.
- 3 Q And who is that to you?
- 4 A Mom.
- 5 Q And who is your father?
- 6 A William Lee Bolden.
- 7 Q Were your parents married?
- 8 A Yes.
- 9 Q And do you recall when they divorced?
- 10 A No.
- 11 Q Were you too young to remember?
- 12 A Yes.
- 13 Q Do you recall the custody arrangement between
- 14 the two of them?
- 15 A Somewhat.
- 16 Q When would you spend time with dad?
- 17 A Mostly every other holiday they would
- 18 alternate, so if she has us on Thanksgiving, then he
- 19 would have us Christmas, and then he would normally get
- 20 us for the whole summer, so it's a month and a half to
- 21 two months.
- 22 Q So most of the school year is spent during --
- 23 with mom?
- 24 A Yes.
- 25 Q Where do you call -- recall being raised?

1 A Well, we were military brats, so a little bit
2 of everywhere, mainly Atlanta, Georgia; South Carolina,
3 that's where we were, and Virginia a lot of the times.

4 Q Tell me about your childhood.

5 A Oh, ours was normal, fun, having the luxury
6 of spending half the time in the country, as far as in
7 South Carolina deep in the county, then having the
8 other half spent in Atlanta was pretty fun. It was
9 like it was a different experience for me and my
10 brother and Alexis as well, so we had a good time.
11 Childhood was normal.

12 Q Did you play sports?

13 A Yes.

14 Q And what sports were you playing?

15 A Basketball mainly.

16 Q And did that require any type of uniforms or
17 things that your mom or your dad would have to pay for?

18 A Yes. When I was in AU and all the way up
19 until I was about 13, then I took on teams that would
20 sponsor more, but most of the time it was my mom and
21 dad that did a lot of the paying for the expenses for
22 that, shoes, uniforms, banquets, things of that nature.

23 Q Did you have to attend church growing up?

24 A All the time.

25 Q As a child, did you have chores?

1 A Yes.

2 Q What type of chores?

3 A Cleaning the room, kitchen. When I got to a
4 certain age we started cutting the grass, I'd say at
5 around 11 started cutting the grass, typical chores
6 that most kids would have in a standard household, you
7 know, clean up behind yourself, you know, if that's
8 your dish you need to wash it out, make up your bed,
9 brush your teeth before you go to sleep, things of that
10 nature.

11 Q Okay. And did mom work while you were
12 growing up?

13 A Yes.

14 Q Did mom ever inflict abuse on you or your
15 brother?

16 A No.

17 Q Did she have any odd types of punishment for
18 either of you?

19 A No.

20 Q Did you ever go hungry?

21 A No.

22 Q Did you ever want for anything?

23 A Never.

24 Q Did you know your mom to use drugs?

25 A Never.

1 Q To abuse alcohol?

2 A Never.

3 Q Do you recall a time when she was dating a
4 man named Charles Manigo?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Did he live at the house with you guys or
7 stay over regularly?

8 A Yes, for a period of time he did.

9 Q And tell me about that relationship, what you
10 recall.

11 A It was the worse, oil -- I think it was like
12 oil and water don't mix or something like that, so it
13 was bad, it was volatile, verbal abuse. Too young at
14 the time to really step in and protect your mother. We
15 was like, at the time I think we was like eight and
16 eight maybe, yeah, eight and nine at that time, so
17 really couldn't do too much but, you know, try to get
18 your mom from that, talk to your mom as much as you can
19 from a nine year old standpoint so, but it was a
20 difficult situation growing up when he was around.

21 Q You said there was mental abuse?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Was there also physical abuse?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Did you observe some of that?

1 A Yes.

2 Q What do you recall observing?

3 A I recall observing my mother being called
4 every name, her being hit for various reasons that I
5 didn't understand at the time, but to me it didn't
6 require you to be punched in the face, dragged across
7 or chased, or chase the van, you know, things of that
8 nature, but he was out of control then. As a man,
9 mentally he was out of control. So it drove my mom up
10 a creek. That wasn't the most healthiest conditions
11 for my mother, you know, at that time, my opinion.

12 Q And did you tell your father about that
13 abuse?

14 A Yes, not as much right away, but later on
15 down the road, yes.

16 Q And what happened ultimately?

17 A Ultimately it led to my mother being taken
18 back to court for custody arrangement and us going to
19 be with our father.

20 Q So you have -- you went to live with dad
21 during the school year at that point?

22 A Yes, part of it, yes, uh-huh.

23 Q And that was based upon the abuse that you
24 observed and were living through?

25 A Right.

1 Q Do you remember mom being pregnant back in
2 1998?

3 A Yes, I remember her having a belly, yes.

4 Q And how old were you at the time?

5 A 1998, what nine, nine.

6 Q And you said you observed -- you remember her
7 having a belly?

8 A Yes.

9 Q All right. And were you excited about having
10 another sibling?

11 A Of course.

12 Q Do you remember doing anything in preparation
13 for the baby's arrival?

14 A Other than going to Wal-Mart. Do I remember
15 what we bought? No, I don't.

16 Q You just knew you were shopping for the baby?

17 A Yes, at Wal-Mart.

18 Q What do you remember about the new baby's
19 arrival?

20 A I mean, everybody was happy. We had came
21 back from Virginia and when we came back Alexis was
22 there. My grandparents was happy. The family that was
23 around was happy. The aunts and uncles and stuff came
24 in town to, you know, welcome the new -- the new family
25 member in, and I just remember a good time, everybody

1 was happy at that point.

2 Q And did you have any nicknames for that
3 child?

4 A You talking about Alexis?

5 Q Uh-huh.

6 A A couple of them. Do you want me to give
7 them to you?

8 Q Sure.

9 A All right. We got Lexi, Alexis, Lexus,
10 Mrs. Me Too, because she always wants something that
11 everybody else has, that's how she was, and the other
12 ones, they would just come if she'd do something in the
13 moment she would get a nickname. Skittles was her
14 nickname for a while because she used to always eat
15 Skittles. That was a deal breaker. She wouldn't tell
16 on you if you gave her some Skittles, so that was a
17 good thing.

18 Q And do you recall assisting your mother when
19 Lexi was younger?

20 A Yes.

21 Q And how, how so?

22 A You know, look after her when mom made a
23 quick errand to the store, we would sit in the car with
24 her, you know, and that way mom didn't have to take her
25 in the store with her while she do her grocery

1 shopping, get her from the bus stop when we got out of
2 school in Atlanta. We would pick her up from the bus
3 stop and walk her home. When she was a little younger,
4 a baby, a baby baby, you know, help her out with
5 feeding the baby, as far as...

6 Q And how was your relationship with Alexis?

7 A Oh, that's -- that's my homey right there,
8 that's -- she's definitely like one of my best friends.
9 I can talk to her about anything, mainly dealing
10 with -- dealing with, you know, everyday life, what
11 goes on, and after she got up a little bit in age, like
12 14, I would take her out and get her hair done, nails
13 done, or we'll sit back and kick and just talk, that's
14 like one of my best friends right there so, yeah.

15 Q And how old were you when you left the home?

16 A I was 18 when I left.

17 Q And how did you remain in touch with your mom
18 and Alexis at that time?

19 A Various ways, Skype, face time, social media
20 outlets from Instagram to Facebook, twitter, e-mails.

21 Q After leaving home and while you were in the
22 military, were you overseas at some point?

23 A Well, not while I was in the military. When
24 I got out of the military I went overseas and started
25 government contracting.

1 Q And how did you keep in touch with them at
2 that time?

3 A Facebook, messenger, Instagram, DM, direct
4 message, I'm sorry, Skype, face time, you know, any,
5 any form of communication at that point.

6 Q And did you remain in regular contact?

7 A Oh, yeah.

8 Q And you talked about your childhood, but how
9 would you describe Alexis' childhood?

10 A I think she was blessed. The childhood she
11 had was outstanding, wonderful. She was able to go
12 places, experience new things that a lot of her peers
13 around her wasn't doing at that time, from vacations to
14 different cities to theme parks, Carolinas. She had
15 the latest and greatest from shoes to hairstyles. So,
16 I mean, I think she's got a hairstyle on right now
17 that's pretty dope, so I mean she -- she stayed -- she
18 stayed. She had a wonderful childhood definitely.

19 Q And do you recall her being well cared for?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Do you recall her ever being hungry?

22 A No.

23 Q Did she appear to be a happy child?

24 A Always.

25 Q Was she always enrolled in school?

1 A Always.

2 Q And did she, in fact, graduate high school?

3 A Yes.

4 Q How would you describe Alexis' personality?

5 A I'd like to say that she is definitely a jack
6 of all trades. She would definitely come in a room and
7 adapt to any situation, any circumstance, so I like
8 that. When she walk in a room like -- like the
9 preacher said, she's like a firecracker. You instantly
10 get snatched onto that smile and you want to be a part
11 of what she's got going on because she -- she's got a
12 gift, she attracts people to her, for what reason I
13 don't know, but she attracts people to her, including
14 myself, so that's a good trait to have and she's a
15 wonderful person to be around, kind of I feel like my
16 mom's personality.

17 Q And would you consider Alexis a natural
18 nurturer?

19 A Always a natural nurturer, she's definitely
20 that.

21 Q And why is that?

22 A I mean, anytime when I was sick, she would
23 sit over here and just cater to me, she would, you
24 know, she would sit, set her schedule down from meeting
25 up with her friends and, you know, make sure I got --

1 make sure I got what I need, make sure my mom got what
2 she needs, as far as my mom was taking the medicine for
3 her diabetes, Alexis was the primary point of contact
4 for that. You know, if something happened to my mom
5 or, you know, we know it was going to be Alexis. It
6 wasn't Trey, it wasn't myself, it wasn't my nana or my
7 grandfather, it was Alexis. So for a 13 year old or 14
8 year old to have that title, you know, was pretty good,
9 but she'd take her nephews and nieces, she'd take them
10 out and take care of them. Like I said, she would
11 change her whole schedule just so she could spend that
12 time with them and nurture them. When my son came into
13 this world, she was there from day one on babysitting
14 duties, she was there from day one, so I do appreciate
15 her for that.

16 Q How would you describe your mom and Alexis'
17 relationship?

18 A A typical mom and daughter relationship, you
19 know, they was real good friends, and then when mom
20 draw the line, the mama line, it was -- it was there,
21 you know, and Alexis respected it. I feel like between
22 her and my mother they had one of the best
23 relationships I can see a parent having with their kid,
24 period, you know, just an understanding, the
25 constant -- the constant picture taking. At every

1 event my mom was at you seen Alexis, every event that
2 Alexis was at, you'd see my mom. And you don't have
3 those relationships nowadays like that with a parent
4 and kid, especially when they hit that 14 and 15 year
5 old point, and Alexis was still by my side, by mom's
6 side, day in and day out at 14 years old, so.

7 Q Did Alexis have chores growing up?

8 A Yes.

9 Q And what type of chores did she have to do?

10 A Clean the dishes, basically the same chores
11 me and Andre had growing up, except she didn't have to
12 cut the grass, she didn't have to do no weed eating or
13 nothing like that, so her job was inside cleaning the
14 bathroom, her room and kitchen when it's her rotation.

15 Q Describe your mother.

16 A My mom, oh, man, that's a -- that's my role
17 model. That's a -- that's a -- she's a wonderful
18 person and, I mean, honestly she is everything I want
19 my wife to be when I be -- when I get married. She's
20 genuine. She's loving. She's caring. She's -- there
21 have been days I wanted to have a bad mood, like I
22 wanted to have bad mood, but she wouldn't let me have a
23 bad mood, so I appreciate her for that. And she's the
24 best person. She would set aside her negative and
25 focus on yours so you could be happy in the long run.

1 So I love her to death.

2 I want -- I couldn't trade my mom today.

3 Even if this situation didn't occur, I still wouldn't
4 have my mom traded in today. Like that's the person
5 that was there when I was wrong, she was there when I
6 was right, and she's always going to continue to be
7 there. She's there now, you know. And as of late I've
8 been having to think about what she would do in a
9 situation versus what I do in a situation, because she
10 seems to handle the situations better than I do when it
11 comes down to thinking it out before acting it out, you
12 know.

13 Q Did she teach you respect?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Did she teach you manners?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Would you say that your mom is a genuinely
18 happy person?

19 A All the time. I can maybe count on one hand
20 how many times I actually seen her like just at that
21 point, so, and part of the times were my fault, so I'll
22 take that.

23 Q And she's normally smiling and upbeat?

24 A Normally.

25 Q How is your relationship with her?

1 A That's my -- that's like my older best friend
2 right there. Like before this situation happened I
3 talked to her four or five times a day, two or three
4 times before I go into work, lunchtime, and then on my
5 way out the door for the rest of the night I will call
6 her just to tell her good night. So if you had to look
7 at it, that's what I mean that's my best friend. I can
8 talk to her about anything, I mean anything, and I know
9 she's not going to pass judgment on what I'm talking --
10 telling her so, or repeat it most of the time.

11 Q And how far was Charlotte from Waltherboro?

12 A Give or take, depending on how you drive,
13 three hours to three and a half hours.

14 Q And how long have you been in Charlotte now?

15 A Going on three years.

16 Q And do you have a son?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Okay. And how old is your son?

19 A Three.

20 Q Tell us what type of grandparent Gloria was
21 to him.

22 A I mean the best, honestly, she was. My son
23 was the first grandson she got to see born, and so she
24 was really connected to him, but my brother's daughter,
25 she would drive, what, across three state lines to pick

1 her up just for three days and bring her back down to
2 South Carolina, enjoy her in South Carolina for a whole
3 week, bring her all the way back and then drive all the
4 way back, but in the process of driving back she would
5 stop where I'm at and see my son, and if she had time
6 she would pick him up and take him to South Carolina
7 for the week, you know, and she -- she -- I miss that,
8 you know.

9 I love being a father, I love it, I think
10 it's the best job I ever had, but every parent does
11 need that break and I don't have that outlet no more,
12 my son don't have that outlet no more and, you know, he
13 still talks about his granny, not knowing the current
14 situation his granny is currently in. So it is -- it
15 is a difficult situation right now because my son don't
16 have his grandmother that I know was a strong part in
17 his life before this issue was to happen and I know she
18 could continue to be there when everything is all said
19 and done. It's just a pause moment that is tough for
20 everybody that is involved.

21 Q And often would you see her living in
22 Charlotte?

23 A I saw mom mostly I'd say six times in six
24 months she'd probably come here and we probably went
25 and seen each other once a month, maybe sometimes more

1 than that, but maybe once a month.

2 Q And do you remain in touch with your
3 grandparents, Gloria's parents?

4 A Yes.

5 Q And living three hours away, is there much
6 you can assist with?

7 A No. Being three hours away and with the
8 schedule I currently work, no, it's hard to assist.

9 Q Do you feel that mom treated Alexis any
10 different than she treated you and Andre -- you and
11 Andre?

12 A No, we all caught the hand, you know,
13 everybody got treated the same. I mean, I don't
14 believe anything is fair, that we can't do 50/50 with
15 everything, so females need a little different
16 attention and the boys do need a little different
17 attention so, I mean, being grown, being an adult now,
18 having my own child, no, we was all raised fairly in
19 that sense.

20 Q And when you heard the news of this crime,
21 what -- what was going on in your mind?

22 A I mean, a lot, you know, everything had went
23 through my mind. How long I was going to be without my
24 mom, what's going on with my little sister, how my
25 other family members are going to be affected,

1 especially my grandparents, my son, my niece, but
2 mainly my little sister.

3 At 18 years old I didn't have to go through
4 that, so the transition to make it smooth, I think both
5 sides, her biological family and my family haven't
6 tried to make it -- make it for her as smooth as
7 possible, not passing judgment on anyone for any
8 circumstances. And it's just it's been difficult, it's
9 been difficult because I don't want to lose my mom off
10 of a mistake. It was a heavy mistake. I don't want to
11 lose her behind that.

12 And I don't want my sister to like feel like
13 all that hard work she put in the school over the last
14 18 years is like a waste, like you got to start over or
15 like this stuff is different. You don't got somebody
16 that you can depend or anything of that nature. So
17 it's been rough. We've all been dealing with it the
18 way everybody deals with it on their own situation in
19 their hard time, but for me, per se, this has been
20 rough because I have another life that knows his
21 grandmother and now he's smart enough to know that she
22 hasn't been around for awhile, maybe not smart enough,
23 but maybe not now being able to know why she's away,
24 but eventually I'm going to have to cross that bridge
25 but, so it's been difficult for everybody.

1 Q And since learning of the crime and since
2 mom's incarceration, have you kept in touch with
3 Alexis?

4 A Yes.

5 Q And how does she seem to be doing?

6 A Well, she seems to be doing pretty good, from
7 the standpoint of for the situation. You know, she's
8 not your typical 18 year old girl anymore, you know, 19
9 year old girl anymore. She had a situation that shook
10 her world up and it shock everybody else that was
11 involved in that, so she's doing as good as she can do,
12 and I know she can do better once everything is all
13 said and done. I know she's going to spread her wings
14 and fly, so she's going to be perfect. She was raised
15 perfectly well. She will be all right.

16 Q Is she still upbeat and happy?

17 A Yeah, yes, yes.

18 Q And you mentioned it briefly, but how has
19 your life changed over the last 16 years or 16 months
20 rather?

21 A I mean, it's different. You know, when guys
22 at work say they're about to go do something with their
23 mom this weekend or, you know, they're going to go to
24 mom's house for dinner, I don't have that option. When
25 it comes down to babysitters, I don't have that option

1 no more, you know, with my mom per se, but my world has
2 been upside down because this is basically one of my
3 best kept secrets. My job don't know about this, a lot
4 of people that surround me day in and day out don't
5 know about this, and mainly because I don't want nobody
6 passing judgment on my mother.

7 You know, me, that's something different, but
8 my mom, I know how great she is, and I love her to
9 death and I do want -- and I know if we all get maxed
10 out for one mistake, for a mistake that we made in our
11 life, I mean a lot of us wouldn't have some of the
12 career paths that we have now. I don't think a lot of
13 us would have some of the opportunities that we have
14 now. We all make mistakes, and I'm pretty sure a lot
15 of us are going to make it when we walk outside this
16 door later on today, whether it's running a red light
17 or, you know, selling the wrong -- go to the wrong
18 person and it's a fatal hit. I look at my mom the same
19 way I looked at her before all this happened. She's
20 still my mother, I love her to death, and I'm always
21 going to be there for her 100 percent.

22 Q Are you still supportive of her?

23 A Still supportive.

24 Q And regardless of what happens, when she is
25 released are you still going to be part of her support

1 system?

2 A That's my mom, of course.

3 Q Is there anything else that you think the
4 Court should know before imposing sentence against your
5 mom?

6 A Yes, I do. She is a great woman. She's --
7 she's smart. She went back to school. She showed us
8 how to be a trooper. She showed us that life ain't all
9 work. She had three kids she was raising by herself,
10 and to me, myself, she did a great job, and then on top
11 of that she went back to school, got a degree, and at
12 the time she was going back for her masters at the
13 time, if I'm not mistaken. Like she's just a great --
14 she's an example. She was in the Tuskegee Airmen
15 Community Service. She's been at all my basketball
16 games. She -- she used to send me care packages all
17 the time when I was overseas. Like this -- this woman
18 is a great woman, I mean honestly, honest.

19 Like I know everybody in here shouldn't feel
20 great. I know everybody in here should feel the way
21 they feel, everybody has been affected here different
22 by her decision 18, 19 years ago but, honestly, if you
23 can have -- if you can sit here and watch a person just
24 try to make up from that time as far as what they were
25 doing, like to minimize that negative punch, she was

1 great. She done took people in off the street like,
2 you know, friends of mine that, you know, parents
3 wasn't as strong as my parents and took them in, raised
4 them and graduated high school, you know, things of
5 that nature. Like she's just she's an awesome woman
6 and I -- I mean, she needs to be and I think she
7 deserves a second chance.

8 I think she shouldn't get the max. I think
9 she have -- I think she's at peace with this situation.
10 She knew she made a mistake. She -- she understands
11 that, and putting somebody behind bars for 22 years,
12 that's a lot when they got so much they did before they
13 went is as far as like good in the community, good in
14 the U.S. We don't have that many people like that
15 around in this world today. We don't have a lot. And
16 if before sentence if the Court can take this into
17 consideration, like she's a great individual and I know
18 my mom, she don't -- she's not going to make the same
19 mistake twice, and I love her to death.

20 Love you, mom.

21 THE DEFENDANT: I love you too.

22 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Bolden.

23 THE WITNESS: No problem.

24 THE COURT: Mr. Mizrahi.

25 MR. MIZRAHI: I just have a -- yeah, I do.

1 THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Johnson.

2 CROSS-EXAMINATION

3 BY MR. MIZRAHI:

4 Q Mr. Bolden, I respect all the words that you
5 said, that you treasure your childhood and memories
6 that you have with your mother.

7 A Yes.

8 Q And when you go to bed at night, do you
9 sometimes remember those, you know, remanence about
10 what it was like growing up with a great woman, as you
11 described your mother?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Did you ever ask her for answers as to why
14 this happened?

15 A No.

16 Q Okay. So you've never discussed what her
17 motivation or her reasons were?

18 A At that point in time, sir, it wasn't -- that
19 wasn't important.

20 Q Okay. Did you find out before she was
21 arrested or around that time that she was arrested?

22 A Around the time she was arrested.

23 Q Okay. So you didn't have -- did you know
24 before she was arrested or after?

25 A She called me the night before --

1 Q Okay.

2 A -- saying it was a possibility.

3 Q Okay. And at that point you didn't -- there
4 was no questioning or discussion as to why she had done
5 what she'd done?

6 A I kind of took it on my own. No, at that
7 point we didn't ask her no questions, but I did took it
8 on my own notion of what I think it could have been.

9 Q Okay. Well, I mean, I appreciate that, but
10 unless she told it to you.

11 A No, she didn't.

12 MR. MIZRAHI: Okay. Fair enough.

13 Thank you, sir.

14 I appreciate it.

15 THE WITNESS: Okay.

16 THE COURT: Thank you, Counsel.

17 Anything further?

18 MS. JOHNSON: Nothing further, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Very well.

20 Thank you so much.

21 It's almost 4:15. Do you want to proceed
22 further or do you want to take a break?

23 MS. JOHNSON: I'll defer to the Court and
24 staff.

25 MR. MIZRAHI: The State is ready to keep

1 going, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Does anyone want a break?

3 No. Okay. We're ready to go for the next
4 witness.

5 MS. JOHNSON: And, Your Honor, can we just
6 have a scheduling, I guess, conference?

7 THE COURT: Of course. We can speak about the
8 schedule at sidebar. It's not a problem.

9 (Whereupon, a sidebar conference was had out
10 of the presence of the court reporter, after which
11 the proceedings were resumed as follows:)

12 MS. JOHNSON: And, Your Honor, our next
13 witness would be Mr. Andre Bolden.

14 THE COURT: Very well.

15 Good afternoon.

16 MR. BOLDEN: How is everyone doing?

17 THE COURT: Very well.

18 If you'll come forward Madam Clerk will swear
19 you in, and then if you'll please be seated.

20 OFFICER CHAMBERS: Sir, raise your right
21 hand.

22 **ANDRE BOLDEN,**

23 having been produced and first duly sworn as a witness,
24 testified as follows:

25 OFFICER CHAMBERS: Go right up there and watch

1 your step.

2 DIRECT EXAMINATION

3 BY MS. JOHNSON:

4 Q Good afternoon, Mr. Bolden.

5 If you'll state your full name for the
6 record.

7 A Andre Jamal Bolden.

8 Q Can you please spell that for us?

9 A A-N-D-R-E J-A-M-A-L B-O-L-D-E-N.

10 Q And are there any nicknames that you go by?

11 A Dre.

12 Q How old are you, Mr. Bolden?

13 A Thirty.

14 Q And where do you reside?

15 A Roanoke, Virginia.

16 Q How long have you been in Virginia?

17 A About ten years now.

18 Q And what type of education do you have?

19 A I got a GED.

20 Q And do you have any licenses?

21 A I had a CNA license.

22 Q Are you currently employed?

23 A Yes.

24 Q And where is that?

25 A Integrity Windows and Doors.

1 Q What is it?

2 A Integrity Windows and Doors.

3 Q And how long have you been employed with
4 them?

5 A Four years now.

6 Q What do you do for them?

7 A I -- a little bit of everything, right now
8 I'm doing receiving.

9 Q And do you know someone named Gloria Brown
10 Williams?

11 A Yes.

12 Q And how do you know that person?

13 A That is my loving mother.

14 Q And who is your father?

15 A William Lee Bolden, Jr.

16 Q And do you recall when they got divorced?

17 A I know I was young. I don't recall the age
18 or what happened.

19 Q Who mostly raised you?

20 A Mainly mostly my mom. I've been with her
21 most of my life.

22 Q Where do you recall being raised?

23 A Def -- excuse me, definitely in Ruffin, South
24 Carolina, Atlanta, Virginia.

25 Q Was it mostly in South Carolina?

1 A Yeah, I would say the majority was probably
2 in South Carolina.

3 Q And tell us about Ruffin.

4 A Ruffin is a -- it's not too much. It's just
5 a little town, mainly everybody is family and that's
6 all.

7 Q Is it kind of country?

8 A Yeah, definitely country, nothing city about
9 it.

10 Q A quiet community?

11 A Yes.

12 Q A safe community?

13 A Yes.

14 Q Tell the Court about your childhood.

15 A I had a pretty good childhood, didn't really
16 want for a whole lot, didn't need a whole lot, for
17 real. I mean, we had video games, the bunk beds, new
18 shoes for school, new clothes for school every year, so
19 it's not like we was poor or nothing like that.

20 Q Did you play sports?

21 A For a little bit, football and baseball.

22 Q When you were playing baseball, did you need
23 cleats and gloves?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Did you always have those?

1 A Yes.

2 Q Who made sure of that?

3 A My mother, that I knew of, I'm sure my dad
4 helped out. As I got older I realized he did help out,
5 and so.

6 Q Did you have chores growing up?

7 A Yes.

8 Q What did you have to do?

9 A Keep the room clean, you know, make your bed,
10 clean up after yourself, cut the grass, take the trash
11 out, stuff like that.

12 Q Did your mother ever inflict any physical
13 abuse upon you?

14 A No, no.

15 Q Any weird forms of punishment?

16 A No.

17 Q Did you ever starve to death?

18 A No.

19 Q Ever go hungry?

20 A No.

21 Q Did you know your mother to use drugs?

22 A No.

23 Q And did you know your mother to use -- abuse
24 alcohol?

25 A No.

1 Q How old were you when your mother started
2 dating Charles Manigo?

3 A About 10 or 11, if I recall.

4 Q What do you recall about that relationship?

5 A Like knocking my mom around and asking if she
6 was all right. Like every night, you know, wake up
7 hearing thumps in the night, boom, boom. The only
8 other person in the house was my mom and Charles, so.
9 Knock on the door and, you know, everybody is all
10 right. This was like every night. I done see her -- I
11 done see him on many occasions disrespect her talking
12 to her. I recall one time he chased or he ran across
13 the field to I think try to take my little sister from
14 her, but, yeah, he was definitely, definitely violent.

15 Q Did you observe any physical abuse or you
16 just heard it?

17 A Visually the only thing I can remember is him
18 grabbing on her, pushing on her, as far as him actually
19 swinging, no. All I recall from that was bruises.

20 Q But you did observe bruises?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Was there mental abuse as well?

23 A Yes.

24 Q What type?

25 A He would -- I don't know how many times like

1 he would make her cry, for what I had no idea at the
2 time, so.

3 Q Was there an incident in the blue vehicle?

4 A Yes.

5 Q What was that?

6 A I think that's when she had a Ford Focus, and
7 I just remember us in the car. I want to say we was
8 going to his house.

9 Q Who was in the vehicle?

10 A Me, my little brother, Charles, my mom. I
11 can't remember if this was before or after Lexi, but we
12 was in the vehicle, started off on the speed limit,
13 they got to talking about something, and all I remember
14 him saying, well, I'll kill us all right now, and he
15 took off down the road wide open.

16 Q How fast was he going?

17 A He had to be going at least -- I don't how
18 fast that car would go, probably no more than about 85,
19 90 miles an hours.

20 Q Run through a stop sign?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Was he saying anything during that time?

23 A I can't recall if he was. Like I said, I
24 remember him saying something before he actually took
25 off.

1 Q And were you afraid during that time?

2 A Yeah.

3 Q And did you ever tell your father about the
4 abuse?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Was it frustrating at the time being 10 or 11
7 and not being able to assist your mother?

8 A Yes, one of the most difficult times I've had
9 in my life.

10 Q What did your father do?

11 A Well, they took my mother back to court and
12 they changed the custody agreement and basically it
13 just like flip-flopped. We was living with him and
14 coming back here to her on the summertime and
15 alternating holidays and stuff.

16 Q So for how long did that occur?

17 A How long did that agreement last?

18 Q Uh-huh.

19 A Not long. I would probably say maybe
20 freshman year, sophomore year, around up in that time.

21 Q So a couple, two to three years?

22 A Yeah, yes.

23 Q And during that time you were living mostly
24 then with dad?

25 A Right.

1 Q And ultimately you did come back to mom's
2 house for --

3 A Yes.

4 Q -- for the school year?

5 Do you remember mom being pregnant 1998?

6 A Yes.

7 Q What do you remember about that?

8 A Just her belly getting big, us fixing up the
9 room.

10 Q And what room is that?

11 A The room that she had when she came home,
12 which was the room right across from our room, me and
13 my brother's room. And I can remember us getting it
14 painted, putting up the border or trying to put up the
15 border around the top of the room. I don't know how
16 well that worked. I remember there being a crib in
17 there and some other things. I don't know. I can't
18 remember what it was then, but I remember going to my
19 pop's house for something and coming back and Lexi was
20 there.

21 Q So you had prepared a room --

22 A Yes.

23 Q -- for a baby, painted it?

24 A (Witness moves head up and down.)

25 Q Is that a yes?

1 A Yes, yes.

2 Q Were you excited about having another
3 sibling?

4 A Yes, yeah, I was ecstatic.

5 Q And are you the oldest?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Did -- and you said when you came home for
8 this -- from the summer from your father's house that
9 Alexis was there?

10 A Yes.

11 Q And we now know her as Kamiyah Mobley?

12 A Yes.

13 Q And did you assist your mom in any way with
14 the new baby?

15 A Oh, yeah, all the time, you know, just --
16 just trying to be the one that calms her down all the
17 time. I used to pick her up and hold her all day, and
18 I hated to put her down, I hated to hear her crying. I
19 remember nights that, you know, you have typical baby
20 stuff when they wake up in the middle of the night and
21 want a bottle. I'd already have it ready. It was like
22 clockwork. I know she was about to wake up. I would
23 beat my mom to the room, get there and put it in her
24 room and feed her the bottle, almost every night.

25 Q So you enjoyed being a big brother?

1 A Yes.

2 Q Did you and Alexis have a relationship?

3 A Yeah, we had a great relationship for us to
4 be, you know, 11 years apart. I mean, she was just the
5 type of little sister that, you know, looked up to her
6 big brother, I guess.

7 Q What types of things did you guys do
8 together?

9 A Not a whole lot together. It was mainly me
10 just playing peacekeeper between my little brother and
11 my little sister, that was the main part.

12 Q And how old were you or how old was she when
13 you left the house?

14 A She was 12, 13 maybe.

15 Q And did you stay in touch with she and your
16 mother after you left the house?

17 A Yes.

18 Q How so?

19 A Telephone, Facebook at one time. We still
20 Facebook message now.

21 Q How would you describe Alexis' personality?

22 A Funny, all around funny, smiling. It's
23 contagious, it is. As soon as she smiles, everybody
24 else will start smiling, and that laugh is phenomenal.

25 Q Was she a happy child?

1 A Yes.

2 Q Was she a well cared for child?

3 A Oh, yes.

4 Q And did you ever know her to be hungry?

5 A No.

6 Q Mom ever physically abuse her?

7 A No.

8 Q Any weird forms of punishment?

9 A No.

10 Q Did Alexis have chores just like you and
11 Antoine did?

12 A Yeah, but they didn't come around till
13 probably right before I got ready to leave up out of
14 the house, but they came around.

15 Q And so she was no help to you, but she did
16 have chores afterwards?

17 A Yes, yes. You know, like, you know, you
18 know, doing the -- doing her part keeping the house
19 tidy, stuff like that, make sure her home is somewhat
20 in order.

21 Q When she was in school, did you get to help
22 her with her homework?

23 A A little bit, a little bit, I did help. I
24 remember us being in Atlanta and I had to pick her up
25 every day from school, I mean not from school, from a

1 bus stop and, yeah, she always had homework, so I would
2 help her as much as I could with that. She -- she --
3 she pretty much did it on her own, but I just -- she
4 would call me when she got stuck or whatever.

5 Q Was she a good student?

6 A Yes.

7 Q A smart kid?

8 A Oh, yeah.

9 Q How would you describe Alexis' relationship
10 with your mother?

11 A She was known as the baby, so she was
12 definitely spoiled. They had a real close connection.
13 Always around. A whole lot of times my mom travelled
14 up to Virginia to see me or my daughter she would
15 definitely be with her, just a whole lot of -- a whole
16 of lot of the times you seen them you seen them
17 together, so I feel like it was a pretty good
18 relationship.

19 Q Was Alexis a respectful child?

20 A Oh, yeah.

21 Q Did she show manners?

22 A Yes.

23 Q How far are you in Virginia from Colleton
24 County, South Carolina?

25 A Seven and a half, eight hours.

1 Q That's a pretty good drive.

2 A Yes.

3 Q And tell us your relationship between you and
4 your mother.

5 A Oh, well, that's my lovely lady. I can call
6 her and talk to her about anything. I can ask her
7 anything. We used to piggybank off each other a whole
8 lot, you know. I would come up a couple dollars short
9 and she will let me hold a couple dollars and vice
10 versa, you know. I mean, we just -- we just always
11 looked out for each other since day one. I mean, you
12 know, it's expected of a parent to look out for their
13 child and -- but when you -- as a child you want to be
14 the one that can give it back, and before any other
15 boyfriend, any of that, I remember her and a couple
16 more of my cousins telling me I was man of the house,
17 and it pretty much stuck with me. So we -- we have a
18 great, great relationship.

19 Q And how often did you speak to her prior to
20 her incarceration?

21 A Every day, every day on my way to work,
22 because I sleep until it's time for me to go to work,
23 and then I get up, get on the road and call her and
24 we'll talk until it's time for me to clock in.

25 Q What kind of things did you guys talk about

1 every day?

2 A Just life, family issues, me, relationship
3 issues, advice, stuff like that.

4 Q And how often did you get to see your mother
5 living seven and a half, eight hours away?

6 A Not much. The majority would probably be the
7 summertime or a special occasion. She used to come and
8 get my daughter for one week every summer and we'll
9 spend a little bit of time then, and every so often
10 I'll be able to make a trip down there to see her as
11 well, so I'd say three, maybe four times a year maybe.

12 Q Okay. And you mentioned your daughter, how
13 old is she?

14 A Nine.

15 Q When did she start spending summers with
16 grandma or the week in the summer with grandma?

17 A Probably as soon as she started walking, and
18 maybe before that. It was, you know, it's been going
19 on for quite some time.

20 Q Would -- has she been asking about her summer
21 vacation?

22 A Yes. She just recently asked me about granny
23 and when she was going to see her last week, last week.

24 Q And what have you told her about that?

25 A I try to blow it off as much as possible, but

1 right now I just tell her that granny is -- granny is
2 pretty busy right now, and I'll let you know when you
3 can get down there. Anytime my mom calls if she's
4 around I get her on the phone instantly and let her
5 talk to her, you know, just so she can hear her voice.

6 Q And how would you describe Gloria as a
7 grandparent?

8 A Great, great. My daughter loves to come to
9 see her granny. She loves any time she gets to see
10 her. It's just she knows granny is going to take her
11 to do this, that and the third, and she has a great
12 time with her. She loves when all her grand kids are
13 together because she tell them all the time I'm the
14 oldest and the greatest.

15 Q Do you think she's taught your daughter
16 anything?

17 A Yeah, a whole lot.

18 Q Like what?

19 A Just being -- just to have tough skin. You
20 know, with her being a young lady and everything, my
21 mom, she has pretty tough skin to be a single mom, and
22 she's definitely picking up habits. She -- she don't
23 let things get to her like she used to, so.

24 Q How would you describe the family dynamic,
25 your family dynamic?

1 A Like how?

2 Q Mom, grandparents.

3 A Oh, everyone is loving and everybody looks
4 out for one another. It's just it's a real strong
5 family.

6 Q Growing up, did you get to spend a lot of
7 time with your grandparents?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Did they, in fact, babysit you a lot?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Still get together around the holidays when
12 you can?

13 A Yes.

14 Q And when you learned the news of this crime,
15 what was going on in your mind?

16 A I've got to get down there, that was the
17 first thing that came to my mind was I had to get -- I
18 had to get to South Carolina, and hoping that she would
19 still be there.

20 Q And when you say she, you mean your mother?

21 A My mom, yes.

22 Q Did it seem surprising to you?

23 A Well, I guess it was surprising that she had
24 just called me the night before and told me that she,
25 you know, had did something bad or made a mistake. I

1 couldn't really talk to her because I work at night,
2 and I told her I'd call her back, and when I got the
3 phone call the next day she had got -- she had been
4 locked up. First thing I had to do was hop on the road
5 right after work and just, you know, and I don't know
6 how I -- I don't -- I remember being asleep for
7 probably an hour and a half, two hours, before I got
8 the phone call that she had been arrested, and I just
9 got on the road and left.

10 Q Describe your mom as a person.

11 A Great, wonderful, a beautiful person inside
12 and out. She's another one that has an electric smile.
13 Whether you're having a good day or a bad day, her
14 smile will light you up, and she's a -- she's a great
15 person all the way around, mother, wife, all-around
16 person.

17 Q And you said the immediate reaction was I
18 just need to get to my family, I need to get to my mom?

19 A Yes.

20 Q After that wore off, what have your thoughts
21 been on this?

22 A Is she okay? Can she come home? Yeah, I
23 just really wanted to make sure she was okay.

24 Q How has your life changed over the last 16
25 months during mom's incarceration?

1 A It's been a bit of a struggle, especially
2 with the summertime approaching. I was hoping I would
3 see her in South Carolina, you know, at her house. I
4 don't know when the next time I'm going to see her.
5 Granted, I try to get down here to Jacksonville as much
6 as possible since she's been here to see her, try to
7 keep money on my phone so I can -- so when she calls I
8 can talk, you know.

9 Q Do you feel like your life is on pause?

10 A Yeah.

11 Q Why is that?

12 A I don't have -- it's hard trying to squeeze a
13 whole week into 15 minutes, which is all the time that
14 they give you for a phone call.

15 Q From the jail?

16 A From the jail. It's, you know, you never
17 know what you have until it's gone, never. I just --
18 it's hard, it's hard for me to go on day to day knowing
19 that she's incarcerated and I'm free. I try to figure
20 out is there anything I can do, you know.

21 Q And knowing all that you do now and listening
22 to all the testimony today, are you mad at your mother?

23 A No, no, I'm not mad at my mother. I'm not
24 mad at the Mobley family. I'm not mad at the Aiken
25 family. I'm -- my mother that I know as well as a

1 whole lot of other people, she is a wonderful person
2 who made a mistake. It caught up with her.

3 Q And when she's ultimately released, are you
4 still going to be a part of her support system?

5 A Most definitely.

6 Q Is there anything else that you believe the
7 Court should know about your mom before imposing
8 sentence?

9 A Well, I'm pretty sure everybody else said
10 everything that I was going to say so, but she is a
11 great person. I just, I ask for as much leniency as
12 you can possibly give.

13 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Bolden.

14 THE WITNESS: You're welcome.

15 THE COURT: Thank you, Counsel.

16 CROSS-EXAMINATION

17 BY MR. MIZRAHI:

18 Q Mr. Bolden, I just wanted to clarify one
19 issue because we haven't really talked about it. You
20 noticed that -- that your mom was pregnant. How old
21 were you when you -- when she was pregnant allegedly
22 with Alexis?

23 A About 10 or 11.

24 Q Do you remember, do you have enough of a
25 memory of how pregnant she was? Like was she at a

1 point where she looked like she was about to give
2 birth?

3 A Maybe. I mean everything looked big at 11,
4 so I don't know.

5 Q I understand.

6 Do you ever remember anyone talking about it,
7 like your dad or Mr. Manigo or anyone else talking
8 about the fact that she never got fully pregnant? You
9 know what I'm saying? Like, in other words, no one
10 ever got to the point, is she was pregnant, what
11 happened to the baby kind of thing, you understand what
12 I'm saying, because she obviously did not give birth to
13 Alexis?

14 A Yeah. No, I don't remember that at all.

15 Q So there was no discussion in the family
16 about that from anyone?

17 A No.

18 MR. MIZRAHI: Okay. That's all the questions
19 I have, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Mizrahi.

21 Anything further, Ms. Johnson?

22 MS. JOHNSON: No, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: May I please speak with counsel at
24 sidebar about the scheduling?

25 (Whereupon, a sidebar conference was had out

1 of the presence of the court reporter, after which
2 the proceedings were resumed as follows:)

3 THE COURT: It's 4:47 p.m.

4 I believe that all the testimony for today is
5 completed. There is a few matters that we need to
6 take care of. I'm going to return to Ms. Johnson
7 now the agreement with the State. This is the
8 thumb drive that I used during the public records
9 issue. This was provided to me on the record and
10 I've been holding onto it, but I don't need it
11 anymore.

12 State agrees this can go back to defense
13 counsel via the bailiff --

14 MR. MIZRAHI: Correct, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: -- or Madam Clerk?

16 MR. MIZRAHI: It can.

17 THE COURT: Very well.

18 Thank you.

19 MR. LUFRANO: Thank you, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Thank you.

21 There are a few more things we'll take care
22 of right now and then we'll come back tomorrow at
23 10:30.

24 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you, Your Honor.

25 I just wanted to acknowledge the people that

1 are here in support of Mrs. Williams. They've come
2 from Jacksonville, South Carolina and most all are
3 from South Carolina, but Ms. Ella Green is here,
4 B. J. Williams, Larry Green, Whitney Gillespie,
5 Tiesha Aiken, Angela Walker, Jennette Riley, Eva
6 Base and Ar'Mune White, and they're all in the
7 audience.

8 Your Honor, in lieu of testimony from
9 Ms. Kamiyah Mobley, who is present today, we do
10 have a Defense Exhibit 4, the State stipulated to
11 that, and they are five articles that were
12 previously -- or interviews that were previously
13 given by Ms. Kamiyah Mobley, and we would tender
14 those in support of Mrs. Williams.

15 THE COURT: No objection?

16 MR. MIZRAHI: No, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: Defense Exhibit 4 is received into
18 evidence.

19 (Whereupon, the document last-above referred
20 to was received in evidence as Defendant's Exhibit
21 No. 4.)

22 THE COURT: And just based upon what we
23 discussed at sidebar and we placed on the record,
24 because those are now in evidence I will not have
25 physical possession of them, so my understanding is

1 you're going to e-mail me a copy of them overnight
2 and copy to the State; is that right?

3 MS. JOHNSON: Yes, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Okay. Are there any other
5 attorneys that would need to be copied on that?

6 MR. MIZRAHI: No, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Okay.

8 MR. LUFRANO: No, Your Honor.

9 MR. MIZRAHI: I think that's it, Your Honor.

10 MS. JOHNSON: Yes, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: Very well.

12 I appreciate everyone that has been here
13 today on both sides. I appreciate all of the
14 testimony, all of the hard work of the attorneys.
15 I'm listening carefully and I'll continue to work
16 hard. I'll review these documents overnight and
17 we'll come back in the morning.

18 It's 4:49 p.m. We're off the record. This
19 case is passed until tomorrow morning. We'll be
20 right here back in Courtroom 406 at 10:30 a.m. for
21 continuation of the sentencing hearing.

22 Thank you.

23 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: The Court is in recess.

25 MR. MIZRAHI: Thank you, Your Honor.

1 (Whereupon, the proceedings were concluded.)
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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF FLORIDA)

COUNTY OF DUVAL)

I, Sharron Ann McLendon, certify that I was
authorized to and did stenographically report the
foregoing proceedings and that the transcript is a true
and complete record of my stenographic notes.

DATED this 16th day of May, 2018.

/s/Sharron A. McLendon
Sharron A. McLendon, FPR