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Truth-Gathering Process
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Statement - Volume 30(b)

Dorothy Starr, Jennifer Guimond & Stephanie Starr,
In relation to Chris Guimond

Statement gathered by Marie Audrey Girard

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MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: So, this is Marie Audrey with the National Inquiry. We are in Winnipeg on October 17, and it is 11:52. I am today with ---

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Dorothy Starr.

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: Stephanie Starr.

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: Jennifer Guimond.

MS. LISA HARTWICK: And, Lisa Hartwick.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: Well, thank you, again, for coming with us. Just to put on the record, you were with us yesterday, you gave your statement yesterday, and you came back today to provide more information?

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Yes, that’s right.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: Okay. What information would you like to add today?

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Okay. I’ve been writing down since that meeting in Sagkeeng, Pine Falls. Like, Wendy told me to write down the times I have tried phoning for that detective, [Detective D]. And, sometimes -- a lot of times he does not call back. I got times and that here, days.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: That’s all of the notes that you had? Like, you took notes every time?

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Yes.
MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: Oh, excellent.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: I don’t know if you need these, or ---

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: Well, can you tell us a little bit, just for the camera and the record, like, how many times you tried to call him, how many times he never -- he didn’t reply?

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: Just count your dates there, mom.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: The dates?

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: The dates that you called.


MS. STEPHANIE STARR: There’s also August 17th.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Yes.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: And, back here somewhere. Yes, that’s down, that’s August 17th. It’s August 18th. So far, nothing even to let me know what they are doing. People don’t know what it feels like not knowing what happened to your child. That’s what I wrote there. And then from there -- where was I?

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: July 7th.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: This was the first when
I started writing, July 7, 2015.

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: Oh yeah, 2015.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Yes.

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: If you go back from the year 2015 until now, you had a lot of ---

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Oh, I got a -- there’s July 25th ---

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: (Indiscernible).


MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: So, you have it all from 2015?

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Yes. That’s when I started keeping track.

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: No, 2017. She hasn’t kept track of all her calls prior to that, but ---

MS. DOROTHY STARR: But, that’s -- they’re numerous.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: So, what we can do, maybe we can make a photocopy of this, and I can leave you the original? And, I can make a photocopy of this, and if you want the same thing, you can keep your originals.

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: Yes.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: Okay, excellent. And, is there anything else that you, like, that you’d like
MS. DOROTHY STARR: Yeah, it’s -- okay, it’s about ---

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: Dragging the Red.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: --- dragging the Red, the people that are dragging the Red River. Okay, his name is [K] (phon).

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: [K]?

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Yes.

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: Oh, okay. He’s the leader in the dragging ---

MS. DOROTHY STARR: He was -- yes.

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: --- the Red River.

He got involved with us when we were on the search, on our ---

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: On our own search.

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: Yeah, on our own search, but we approached him when we seen him. And, he did help us. But, the times he worked for us, and we worked with him, the police have never really been involved with his findings. Even if we did have findings, they wouldn’t update or do any ---

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: Basically, never hear anything of it.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Yeah.
MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: And, do you know what kind of finding he did?

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: He found a skull, a human skull, teeth, hair ---

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: Guns.

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: --- guns.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Yes.

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: Didn’t he find chunks of skin or something? I don’t know what that stuff was he found.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: They found quite a few stuff anyways, and then they had a container they found to put in there, and when the day is over, the cops would pick it up, but no word after that.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: It was never picked up? The evidence were never picked up?

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Oh, they’d pick it up, or ---

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: We would just never hear of anything.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: But, you never hear one word.

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: Like, nothing in the news to say, like, there is this found or, you know, just nothing.
MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: And, do you think it’s linked, this discovery is linked, with your own search?

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: Not really, because [K] has been dragging the Red River for eight years ---

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Yes.

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: --- nine years.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Nine years.

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: He’s been looking for his sister, but never got assistance neither from the cops.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: So, you see that the cops are not -- like, are not going through the findings that you had, and that they haven’t been really helpful with that?

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Yeah.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: I see.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: And, remember about those bones you guys found?

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: Yes, we found bones, too, on our searches. And, we submitted them, and we asked them to get them checked. We know it was a pelvic bone of a human, because an animal is sideways, but a human is this way. And, we found one piece on the west side of the bank, and along the other side, we found -- east, we found a piece of pelvic bone. On the west side of the bank, we
found cuts, pieces of all kinds of bones cut. You could see it was cut with some kind of ---

**MS. STEPHANIE STARR:** Maybe a saw or something.

**MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND:** Not a saw, it was like a clean cut.

**MS. STEPHANIE STARR:** Like, a chop kind of look maybe. I don't know.

**MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND:** I don't know. It was cut. It was a clean cut. We started putting pieces together, but they were saying it was animal bones. I had so much pictures of all these findings on my phone, but my phone got damaged, so I couldn’t get that information. All those pieces of bone were long -- I don't know. They’re about this big. We put a measuring tape beside them, too, or an object to show how big the bone was and all that. But, we gathered all those bones and we gave them to -- what was that, your first woman there. [Detective A]?

**MS. DOROTHY STARR:** Oh, the detective?

**MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND:** Yeah, the detective.

**MS. DOROTHY STARR:** [Detective A], yeah.

**MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND:** She picked up those bones, and she never said nothing about them after.

**MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD:** (Indiscernible) after?
MS. DOROTHY STARR: No.

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: And, I hear they’re trying to take [K] off the river, to stop him.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: They did already.

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: Oh, they did?

MS. DOROTHY STARR: That’s why he can’t do nothing this summer.

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: They stopped his searching. They didn’t let him.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Yeah, they didn’t let him go back on the river.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: And, how did they do that? They just told him, “You cannot go back?” How did that happen?

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Well, the year before last year, they were already after him that they didn’t want him doing -- dragging on the river. But, he kept on. But now this Bernadette Smith turned on him, too.

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: She turned on him, too?

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Yes.

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: Because she was supposed to be the coordinator for him.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Yeah, but she turned on him, too, and sided with the police, or something like
that. And -- because I talked to [K], I ran into him earlier this month. He says, “I’m sorry, I can’t do that. I’m not allowed.” And that’s when he told me that Bernadette turned on him from doing that, that she sided with the other people to stop him from dragging the Red.

**MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND:** I wonder why.

**MS. DOROTHY STARR:** I don’t know.

**MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD:** And, do you have any -- I know we talked a little bit about it yesterday, but do you have any feelings why the police didn’t pursue when you will be providing pieces of evidence, and how do you feel about it?

**MS. STEPHANIE STARR:** It just kind of makes you leery on trusting them, do you know what I mean? They don’t come off like they’d be trustworthy for anything. You just -- well, it’s hard. You’re finding evidence like this. Why isn’t nothing being done or said; right? I mean, like, it may not be our brother, but it could -- if it’s a person, it could belong to somebody’s family.

**MS. DOROTHY STARR:** Somebody is looking for them.

**MS. STEPHANIE STARR:** For closure somewhere. Because it’s not just our brother that’s missing. There’s a lot of people that go missing. We also have another cousin of mine I work with; his niece has been missing for
the past two weeks now. So, I mean, this is happening way too much. And then there’s no -- again, with that, there is no help being done there, I believe.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: That was my next question. Do you know about this investigation, if it’s getting ---

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: No. He says, as far as he could tell, there’s not a lot being done. So, it sounds like the same kind of situation we’re going through. I forget what he said his niece’s name was. It’s a hard thing. I mean, it’s just suffering, the family. Do you know what I mean? I’m sure I fit was their family member, they’d be all out looking, you know, real hard.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: And, making all the efforts.

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: Exactly. And, it feels like -- it makes it feel like they don’t care. And, that it’s like, oh, it’s just another Native person. Lave it alone. That’s what it feels like.

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: Well, yeah, when Chris went missing, there was another person that went missing, a (indiscernible) woman. She went missing, and then they showed on the news the cadaver dogs, search parties, helicopters.

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: But, she wasn’t
Native.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Weeks. It went on every day.

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: And, I’m thinking, “How come they didn’t do this for Chris?” You know?

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: And, again, we feel it’s because of the racial issue.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: Mm-hmm.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: That’s what it is.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: So, you really feel a difference ---

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: Yes.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: --- is what I am understanding?

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: Yes.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: And then -- yeah, and I noticed -- because when I drive back home, I make a few stops to see missing Native people, and they’re still missing. And, I’ve ever heard nothing about these on the news, but I seen them on posters. But, that’s probably because of the families putting up posters, and not clarifying it with the news. I’m not finding that out through the news, eh? I’m finding out by posters like this, homemade posters.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: And, that’s what
we want with this Inquiry, right, to see the pattern, and how is that possible? There is a problem. So, we want to see -- we want to make it better, and we want to see how it is affecting people. And, that’s why your statement is so important; right?

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Mm-hmm.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: Is there anything else that you know about the investigation and that you would like to talk today about? Like, how it wasn’t dealt by the institution, police institution, or any other institutions that you dealt with during your search?

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Oh, I think the only one that was there when we were searching there was Jill, eh?

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: Jill from the news.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: CBC.

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: She was from the news, yeah. She interviewed my mom a few times, like, about the incident with Chris missing.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: And, that’s the only time, a very short ---

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: A brief ---

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Yes.

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: That he was missing, but ---

MS. DOROTHY STARR: And, after that, it was
that one day, one evening, whatever, and that’s it. You

don’t hear nothing else.

**MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND:** Yeah, because, like I
said, I don’t watch the news. But, even still, I never --
when I do see news, I don’t see nothing, like, advertised
about missing, or -- you know, how it is on the news. They
are brief. But, not even a sign of saying, oh, like,
“family is looking for family members,” or something, you
know? Like, just make a brief newscast about it. But,
nothing.

**MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD:** And, I see that
you brought, as well, a picture.

**MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND:** Yeah, that’s Chris
there. This is the one that we posted. We put them all
over the streets, and they all got ripped off.

**MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD:** That’s what you
were referring to yesterday, when you said they all
were ---

**MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND:** Yeah. Posted them up
everywhere. Every pole. But, every pole they’re gone.
So, maybe it was striking a nerve to somebody who couldn’t
stand to see his face anymore, maybe. Yeah, I don’t know.

**MS. STEPHANIE STARR:** There’s guilt there,
or something, or something is known.

**MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD:** And, can we keep

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this for our archives or you would like that we make a photocopy?

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: We’d prefer to keep the colour copy. If you could make a photocopy?

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: Of course. Of course. So, I will make a photocopy of ---

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: It’s our only colour copy we have of this picture right now.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: Okay, excellent. So, I will make a photocopy of it.

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: Okay.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: Thank you so much for sharing this information. And, I think it’s really nice that we can see Chris as well. So, for us ---

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: Yeah. Well, it’s important because he’s not just a name.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: Exactly. So, it’s important for us to have a picture as well.

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: Exactly.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: So, thank you for bringing this today. I think it’s important.

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: Yes.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: And, I was wondering if there is anything else that you would like to discuss today, about all the things that we’ve been talking
yesterday? So, if you have anything else that you would
like to add? I’m here for you, and we can take all the
time that you need. So, if you have thought yesterday
between -- well, between today and yesterday about
something else that you would like to talk about, we’re
here for you.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: (Indiscernible) I forgot
about that I was writing down, and about dragging the Red.

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: And, also, like, if
I’m leaving today if I come back, like, tomorrow evening,
come back for Thursday, I’m thinking of bringing that ---

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: Map.

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: We had a map of the
city where I was highlighting where we were searching all
over areas. If I could bring that in, maybe you could take
a photocopy of it or something?

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: Yes. That could
-- totally, we can do that.

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: Okay. I’ll bring
that stuff back on Thursday.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: And, I think what
would be the most -- yeah, I think the most efficient thing
is maybe I can provide you my cell phone. It’s just I
don’t know if I will be in the hearings. I don’t know what
will be the best.
MS. LISA HARTWICK: Me as well. You know how we went to that table at the back, there was the front registration desk, and then we went to talk to, I think it was Michelle at the back? That would probably be -- if we’re not available, to talk with her. She would be able to get the photocopy and get it to the statement. Okay?

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: Okay.

MS. LISA HARTWICK: I’m sure they’ll let us know. Now they know you a little, they know us in relation to you.

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: That could work.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: Okay. Excellent.

Yes.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Those were the main things I forgot yesterday.

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: Like I said, each day your head clears, and you remember something else. You may remember something tonight again when you go home. Just like yesterday, everything started coming back, like, things we could have said. But, this is -- and tomorrow we’ll come back. You’ve just got to let your mind clear.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Also, if I remember certain things, I will write them down.

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: Yes. And then you can submit them. If you can’t see them, they will see what

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you wrote, or that you want to say.

**MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD:** Yes. And, we are here until Friday. So, if there is anything else that comes back that you would like to share with us, we are here. And, after that, when we’re gone, I won’t be in Winnipeg, but we have staff in Winnipeg. So, it’s possible to be in contact with them as well. So, they will be here. We won’t be in the Radisson, but I think they will be able to have contact with you and be able to meet with you as well.

**MS. LISA HARTWICK:** There should definitely be somebody following up from the team. Like, not just me, but somebody. They mentioned it this morning in our meeting that there’s a follow up aftercare. So...

**MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND:** Okay.

**MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD:** And, if you have any other questions, anything you would like -- I know we will go do photocopy, but anything that you would like to, again, share about something else, or that you have been thinking that you would like to share? Or, that was it for today?

**MS. DOROTHY STARR:** Those were the things I forgot about yesterday.

**MS. STEPHANIE STARR:** What about that thing you mentioned downstairs, what they did to him?
MS. DOROTHY STARR: Oh, okay. I was still living -- I was on Manitoba Avenue at the time. That’s quite a while back. There was one day that, I guess, Chris was talking to his Uncle Cliff -- is that the one you’re talking about?

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: I think so.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: About the water?

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: Yeah, about the water.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Yeah. Apparently, the cops beat him up, so he had to pretend to be knocked out. And, when they thought he was knocked out, they threw him in the river.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: Do you know who did that?

MS. DOROTHY STARR: The police.

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: He didn’t know which badge number, because he didn’t ---

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: Oh, this is terrible.

MS. JENNIFER GUIMOND: I’m just hearing about that, like, myself, too. Like, she stays out here with them, I’m back home, eh?

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: There are times he would come home, like if he got picked up somewhere -- like
I said, he had an addiction problem before. Once in a while he would get picked up by the police. And then he’d later come back ---

MS. DOROTHY STARR: All bruised.

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: --- bruised, like he got beaten. So, I mean, like, I think there is a lot of unfair treatment and unnecessary treatment.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: And, in your opinion, this happened many times?

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: Yes, more than just one occasion.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Yeah. Oh yeah.

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: And, at the hands of the police.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: And, is there any -- has he ever went to the police?

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: No, he just left it alone. He didn’t want to take it on. Just, like, take the hits, and then just let it go.

MS. DOROTHY STARR: Yeah, because he knows he wouldn’t get nowhere.

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: Exactly. Exactly. So, that’s what it felt like. Like, he would be cornered and then, you know, there would be no justice for him; right? Because you’re fighting against the justice. So, I
mean -- but, that’s been more than one occasion, for sure, where they beat him down.

**MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD:** And, do you know if this happened a long time before April 7, 2015?

**MS. STEPHANIE STARR:** Oh yeah. Oh yeah. It was on and off that it would happen.

**MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD:** On and off? So, do you have any memories of that happening before April 7, 2015?

**MS. STEPHANIE STARR:** Just that he’d come back bruised or something, or just really sore. But, he wouldn’t like show his back for bruises or anything, but you would know he’s not moving like he should be.

**MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD:** So, you ---

**MS. STEPHANIE STARR:** That’s, again, it’s stuff like that, that just makes you not want to trust the police here. You lose faith in stuff like that, so it makes it hard. And, it makes it hard for us to ask for help from them and expect the help because of these situations.

**MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD:** I just maybe have more questions. So, you mentioned that that would happen, and it happened not so long before he went missing?

**MS. DOROTHY STARR:** Yeah.

**MS. STEPHANIE STARR:** It would have been
long before that even. Like, occasionally he would take a beating.

**MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD:** Do you remember the last time it happened? Do you have a ---

**MS. STEPHANIE STARR:** Not a specific day, no, no. Again, something like that, I didn’t keep track of, like, the days or things that would happen. But, yeah, it just shouldn’t have happened.

**MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD:** No, it shouldn’t have happened. Like, violence is ---

**MS. STEPHANIE STARR:** Something like that, no. Like, they’re supposed to be there to help ---

**MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD:** Exactly.

**MS. STEPHANIE STARR:** --- not hurt.

**MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD:** This shouldn’t have happened. I’m sorry to hear that, because it is hard to lose trust in an institution.

**MS. STEPHANIE STARR:** And, I guarantee he’s not the only one that something like that has happened to. It’s not the first.

**MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD:** And, that’s what we are looking into as well. So, it’s important to have this information.

**MS. DOROTHY STARR:** And, I think, my other daughter, she was waiting for a bus on Fourth and
(Indiscernible) to go down to (Indiscernible), but she was on her cell phone. And, at the bus stop, there was a Native guy there, and two cops showed up. I guess somebody phoned and complained about him. They just started beating him up. And, I guess one of the cops thought that Bobbie was taking pictures of that, but her bus came, and that cop was going towards her. But, she jumped on the bus. A lot of stuff like that that goes on.

**MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD:** And, again, that’s what we’re trying -- because this is not acceptable, so that’s why we’re trying to see what’s going on, and what we can do to make the future better; right? That’s the idea. But, we are hearing that there are many problems ---

**MS. STEPHANIE STARR:** They’re -- yeah, definitely there are issues.

**MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD:** --- there are issues, and it didn’t happen only once. I think that we’ve been hearing that since yesterday. So, I think it’s really important that you’re sharing that with us as well.

**MS. DOROTHY STARR:** Yes. Yeah, I don’t believe in them anymore.

**MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD:** Sorry?

**MS. DOROTHY STARR:** I said, I don’t believe in them anymore at all. Just no faith in them.

**MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD:** I understand. So,
if there is anything, again, that you would like to share, let us know. We are there. But, if it’s what you wanted to share with us today, well, thank you so much. And, I will make a photocopy, if it’s okay with you. You can go downstairs with Lisa. I will go make some photocopies and give you back the originals.

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: Okay. Yes, because we would like to keep our own records.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: Of course. Of course. And, for us, it’s really useful to have this information.

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: Of course, yes.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: And, again, to see Chris, what he looks like, and have a picture of him. So, yes, okay. Excellent. So, if it’s all right with you, and if you don’t have any other questions, I will turn off the record, and we will be able to make the photocopies, and you can just stay with Lisa.

MS. STEPHANIE STARR: Okay. Thanks, again.

MS. MARIE AUDREY GIRARD: So, this is Marie Audrey. We will go off record. It is 12:17.

--- Upon adjourning at 12:17
LEGAL DICTA-TYPIST’S CERTIFICATE

I, Shirley Chang, Court Transcriber, hereby certify that I have transcribed the foregoing and it is a true and accurate transcript of the digital audio provided in this matter.

Shirley Chang
February 28, 2018