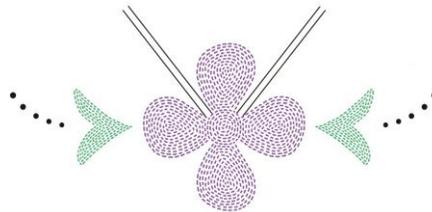


National Inquiry into  
Missing and Murdered  
Indigenous Women and Girls



Enquête nationale  
sur les femmes et les filles  
autochtones disparues et assassinées

**National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered  
Indigenous Women and Girls  
Truth-Gathering Process  
Part I Statement Gathering  
Prince Arthur Hotel  
Thunder Bay, Ontario**



**PUBLIC**

**Sunday October 28, 2018**

**Statement - Volume 561**

**Mary Jane Kewakundo,  
In relation to Joyce Francis Wesley**

**Statement gathered by Debbie Bodkin**

---

**INTERNATIONAL REPORTING INC.**

41-5450 Canotek Road, Ottawa, Ontario, K1J 9G2

E-mail: [info@irri.net](mailto:info@irri.net) – Phone: 613-748-6043 – Fax: 613-748-8246

**II**  
**NOTE**

Where not required by other statute, redactions to this public transcript have been made pursuant to Rule 55 of the Commission's *Legal Path: Rules of Respectful Practice*, which provides for "the discretion to redact private information of a sensitive nature where it is not material to the evidence to be given before distributing the information to the Parties. The National Inquiry will consider the public interest in releasing this type of information against the potential harmful impact on the individual whose personal information is at issue."

**III  
TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**Statement Volume 561  
Mary Jane Kewakundo  
October 28, 2018**

**PAGE**

Testimony of Mary Jane Kewakundo . . . . .	1
Reporter's Certification . . . . .	23

Statement Gatherer: Debbie Bodkin

**Documents submitted with testimony: none.**

**Statement - Public**  
**Mary Jane Kewakundo**  
**(Joyce Francis Wesley)**

**1**

Thunder Bay, Ontario

1  
2 --- Upon commencing on Sunday, October 28, 2018 at 10:15  
3 a.m.

4 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Okay. The audio and video  
5 equipment is on again. And just to repeat, today is  
6 Sunday, October 28th, 2018. It is 15 minutes after 10 in  
7 the morning. We are at Prince Arthur Hotel in Thunder Bay,  
8 Ontario. My name is Debbie Bodkin and I'm a statement  
9 gatherer with the Inquiry. And Christine Simard-Chicago is  
10 here for your health support as you share your truth. And  
11 as I mentioned earlier, now that I've done the formal  
12 introduction, I will ask you to introduce yourself, and if  
13 you don't mind, giving your date of birth, and your  
14 address, and any family history you want. And then from  
15 there, you share whatever you feel you're comfortable  
16 sharing. Okay. So the floor is yours and if you want to  
17 go ahead and introduce yourself.

18 **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** Okay. My name is Mary  
19 Jane Kewakundo. I'm originally from Mishkeegogamang (Ph.),  
20 I was born and raised there. And I live in Fort Frances.  
21 And I got -- I got four kids, three boys, one girl, six  
22 grandkids. And my spirit name is [Speaking in Indigenous  
23 language] of my [Speaking in Indigenous language] Kenyu  
24 (Ph.) is my spiritual helper. So what do I say now?

25 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Well, here I'll ask you just

Statement - Public  
Mary Jane Kewakundo  
(Joyce Francis Wesley)

2

1 -- what's your birthdate, Mary Jane? Simple little ones  
2 first.

3 **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** [Birthdate], 1964. I  
4 just had a birthday a couple weeks ago.

5 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Oh, happy belated birthday.  
6 And I know you said your address -- you're from Fort  
7 Frances. What's your actual address?

8 **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** [Residential address],  
9 Fort Frances.

10 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** [Residential address].

11 **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** M'hmm.

12 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Okay. Great. So now  
13 whatever you -- if you came to speak about someone in  
14 particular, tell us who that person is and then just share  
15 what happened to them or how they're related to you.

16 **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** Okay. It's my -- my -  
17 - my late sister, Joyce Francis-Wesley. [Birthdate], 1970.  
18 And she passed away on March -- March 29th, 2008. That's  
19 about 10 years ago, over 10 years ago. It's been -- it's  
20 been bothering me that -- how she -- how she died, how she  
21 passed away.

22 We were told that she -- she fell down the  
23 stairs, I'm going to say probably 10, 15 steps. And she --  
24 she fell down the -- to the bottom there. And then she end  
25 up in the hospital, and she was in the hospital for, like,

**Statement - Public**  
**Mary Jane Kewakundo**  
**(Joyce Francis Wesley)**

3

1           10 days. She hit her head, back of her head. And then she  
2           -- and then she was in the hospital. And then I -- and  
3           then -- and then I heard so many stories what happened.  
4           They say that she got pushed and they say that she fell  
5           down.

6                         But when -- when she went to the hospital,  
7           she had -- she was with two young girls, two young girls  
8           took her to the hospital to emerge here -- here in Thunder  
9           Bay. They -- they took her to the hospital and -- and that  
10          was it, then those two girls -- those two young girls took  
11          off and they didn't give any information what -- what  
12          happened. So they just left my sister there. So -- and  
13          then my sister got seen at emerge and so they admitted her  
14          right away that day. So she was in the hospital for 10  
15          days. She went in on March 19. I was told that she -- was  
16          when she went to the hospital. Then she passed away March  
17          29th.

18                        And -- and the -- my aunt, the one that was  
19          supposed to come with me, she said that -- well, my mom  
20          passed on too in December -- on New Year's Eve -- not New  
21          Year's Eve, sorry, Christmas Eve, that's when my mom passed  
22          away.

23                                 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Just this past one?

24                                 **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** No, 2012. And -- and  
25          my aunt, the one that was supposed to come with me, she

**Statement - Public**  
**Mary Jane Kewakundo**  
**(Joyce Francis Wesley)**

4

1 told me that there was two young girls down, they were  
2 trying to talk to my mom because they were trying to tell  
3 her that -- what really happened that -- that time when --  
4 when my sister had an accident, or -- and -- and -- and my  
5 mom didn't speak English, or understand English so she  
6 didn't know what they were saying to her.

7 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** And was this when your mom  
8 was sick that these two young girls came? Like, before she  
9 died? Or a long time ago?

10 **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** Before -- before my  
11 mom passed away. She was -- she was in -- she wasn't sick  
12 or anything but just they -- and those two young girls are  
13 two White girls, they told her what happened. So my mom  
14 doesn't understand English or speak English.

15 So -- and -- and also she had -- my sister  
16 had an abusive relationship. And then -- and then that --  
17 after my sister passed away, and that her -- the boyfriend  
18 took off. So I'd like to find answers what really happened  
19 to her instead of just hearing rumours. And I don't think  
20 it was accident. Especially having an abuse -- abusive  
21 relationship.

22 And also she was -- she was on the streets  
23 too, like, prostituting. And I don't think it was by  
24 choice, I think it was by force. So just -- this just --  
25 like, I can't -- I just can't get over it, like, you know.

**Statement - Public**  
**Mary Jane Kewakundo**  
**(Joyce Francis Wesley)**

5

1 Like, it's been, like, 10 years that she's been gone. I  
2 told my sister one time, "We should -- we should try to  
3 [inaudible response]. And she said, "Yeah, let's phone  
4 (Ph.) it."

5 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Let's what, sorry?

6 **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** That's all she said,  
7 "Yeah, we should." That's all she said but we never talked  
8 about it. So it's been -- maybe I'm the only one -- well,  
9 I've -- I've -- I got two my -- two sisters left. One, my  
10 two younger sisters. They -- they never talk about it and  
11 I wonder on how she -- how she passed, what really  
12 happened. And me, I always think about it and -- even when  
13 I go to a sweat and I pray -- I pray for her, pray for the  
14 answers what really happened.

15 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** M'hmm.

16 **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** And -- and I talk to  
17 my sister had three -- three kids that were in a Crown  
18 ward. One boy and two girls. And they're all, like,  
19 teenagers now, they're, like, twenties now. And the middle  
20 one there, her name is [Daughter], she talks about her mom.  
21 And -- and then I asked her one time, "What do you think  
22 happened to her?" And she said, "Well, I heard," and she  
23 said, "I heard that she fell out the window." That's what  
24 she said. So this just -- like I said, this is different  
25 rumours and that's what she heard. And that's -- that's my

**Statement - Public**  
**Mary Jane Kewakundo**  
**(Joyce Francis Wesley)**

6

1 niece. That's her second -- her second daughter. Yeah, so  
2 -- she -- she asks me questions about -- about her mom. I  
3 just give her the information.

4 I mean, what I know about her. I just -- I  
5 just -- this, I would very -- wanted to know what really  
6 happened to her. And if there's anything that could be  
7 done to -- to be looked at again.

8 I like the way my -- my son explained it. I  
9 was always tell him -- I was telling him what I just said.  
10 And he says, he goes, "Oh, that's just like sweeping," --  
11 how -- how did he say? "Sweeping all that -- what  
12 happened, just put it under the carpet." That's how he  
13 explained it. I said, "Yeah, it seems like nothing has  
14 been done." So that's -- my son was going to come but  
15 change his mind because he was kind of sick.

16 They -- they remember -- they remember her  
17 too, eh. When my sister used to come and stay with us when  
18 we lived in [inaudible response]. She used to come and  
19 stay with us for a while and she was, like, a homeless --  
20 she was -- stay -- stay with me and if she came to Thunder  
21 Bay, and that's when she met that -- her boyfriend. And I  
22 never met -- I never met that guy. I don't even know what  
23 he looks like. But -- but I heard his name was  
24 [Boyfriend]. That's all I know but I don't know the last  
25 name. He took off after my sister passed away.

Statement - Public  
Mary Jane Kewakundo  
(Joyce Francis Wesley)

7

1                   **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Sorry, say that part again?

2                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** He took off, right. I  
3 heard that he took off after my sister passed away.

4                   **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Do you know where he was  
5 from, or, like, where he took off? Here in Thunder Bay, I  
6 presume, somewhere?

7                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** He -- I heard he took  
8 off down east. I don't know, it's just so much -- so much  
9 rumours I hear. Like, they say a Native lady pushed her  
10 too, down the stairs. A Native lady with the glasses --  
11 with the sunglasses. I guess that's why it's been -- it's  
12 been bothering me. Maybe that's why I came -- came here to  
13 see if -- see if it could be looked at again, investigate.

14                   And -- and where it happened -- where it --  
15 I think that place is demolished now. But it was on  
16 Syndicate Avenue. Used to be a bar there.

17                   **CHRISTINE SIMARD-CHICAGO:** [inaudible  
18 response]

19                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** Yeah. That's where --  
20 that's where it happened. I guess they used to rent rooms  
21 there monthly or something. And that's where they were  
22 staying, her and her boyfriend.

23                   **DEBBIE BODKIN:** So it was like a hotel, or a  
24 rooming house or something?

25                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** Rooming house. And

1                   **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Okay. Are you comfortable  
2 with me asking a couple questions when you're ready?

3                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** Yeah. Yeah, I think  
4 that -- that's, like, see if there's anything that could be  
5 done, to be looked at again, you know, to investigate  
6 because once -- once I'll know, I'll feel better.

7                   **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Okay. You started telling a  
8 story, you said, "They told me." Who -- how did you find  
9 out? Who did you find out from that Joyce had died? That  
10 this had happened.

11                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** My family.

12                   **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Okay.

13                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** I was in -- I was in  
14 Michigan at -- I was in Michigan when I had that call --  
15 when I had that phone call. My aunt called me saying that  
16 my sister Joyce passed away.

17                   **DEBBIE BODKIN:** And did -- does your aunt  
18 know, the aunt that was going to come with you, does she  
19 know more details that she hasn't shared with you? Or has  
20 she shared all she knows as well.

21                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** That's all she shared.

22                   **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Right.

23                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** She knows.

24                   **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Yeah.

25                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** She probably would

Statement - Public  
Mary Jane Kewakundo  
(Joyce Francis Wesley)

9

1 have -- she probably would have shared too.

2 DEBBIE BODKIN: Were police involved at all?

3 MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO: I really ---

4 DEBBIE BODKIN: No? You don't know about  
5 that even? Okay.

6 MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO: That's the thing. I'm  
7 wondering how come the police didn't ---

8 DEBBIE BODKIN: M'hmm, if they were called -  
9 --

10 MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO: --- [inaudible  
11 response]

12 DEBBIE BODKIN: --- and involved.

13 MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO: Yeah. And what I ---

14 DEBBIE BODKIN: Was ---

15 MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO: --- what I heard was  
16 those two young girls, they walked with her to the  
17 hospital.

18 DEBBIE BODKIN: So she was walking? She was  
19 -- and how did you find that out?

20 MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO: My aunt.

21 DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.

22 MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO: The one that's  
23 supposed to come.

24 DEBBIE BODKIN: Is there anyone that you  
25 know of that would know the names of the girls?

1 MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO: I don't know.

2 DEBBIE BODKIN: No. Anyone who would know  
3 [Boyfriend]'s last name that you know of?

4 MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO: My sister in  
5 Vancouver.

6 DEBBIE BODKIN: She knows his name?

7 MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO: Probably, yeah.  
8 Because my sister used to live there too, the one in  
9 Vancouver.

10 DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.

11 MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO: Her name is [Sister]  
12 and she used to live right below -- I mean, right above  
13 them.

14 DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay. Do you want to share  
15 [Sister]'s last name so I can put her into the report if  
16 she's ---

17 MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO: Oh, my sister?

18 DEBBIE BODKIN: Yeah.

19 MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO: [Sister's last name].

20 DEBBIE BODKIN: [Sister's last name]?

21 MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO: Yeah.

22 DEBBIE BODKIN: And she's still in  
23 Vancouver?

24 MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO: Yeah.

25 DEBBIE BODKIN: And you had mentioned that

**Statement - Public**  
**Mary Jane Kewakundo**  
**(Joyce Francis Wesley)**

11

1       your two younger sisters -- I presume one is [Sister] --  
2       they just don't talk about it with you? But you think that  
3       they -- were they closer to Joyce and they maybe know some  
4       more details and that's what they're uncomfortable talking  
5       about?

6                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** I'm not sure.

7                   **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Not sure?

8                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** M'hmm.

9                   **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Okay. Anyone else you think  
10       is important to mention in regards to if it ever was able  
11       to be reinvestigated? Are there any other names or people,  
12       or places where more information could come from?

13                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** I -- I don't know.

14                   **DEBBIE BODKIN:** What hospital was she taken  
15       to?

16                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** Regional.

17                   **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Pardon me?

18                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** Regional.

19                   **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Regional. Okay. Any other  
20       friends of Joyce's that you know she was good friends with  
21       or anything? Or had she sort of been away that you didn't  
22       know.

23                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** I'm not sure, like,  
24       her friends because she lived -- she lived here and I lived  
25       in Fort Frances.

1                   **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Right.

2                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** We would -- sometimes  
3 we would talk on the phone but not very often. But I never  
4 knew her -- her friends.

5                   **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Okay.

6                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** And -- but she used to  
7 drink with our cousin [Cousin]. That's the only one I can  
8 think of.

9                   **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Okay. Do you want to share  
10 a little bit about maybe some good memories of Joyce? And  
11 a little bit maybe about her background? How she ended up  
12 in this abusive relationship and on the streets. Like, did  
13 something happen that -- in the family background?

14                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** Joyce, she went to  
15 residential school in Poplar Hill but I don't know how many  
16 years she went there. And they used to live in [inaudible  
17 response] I didn't -- I didn't grow up with them because my  
18 grandmother raised me.

19                   **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Okay.

20                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** And -- and I had a  
21 good relationship with her. Her -- my other sister,  
22 [Sister], we're close. My -- and my other two sisters are  
23 -- and they would -- I -- I was -- I'm not -- I wasn't  
24 really close to them but we would argue and, you know how  
25 kids are, they argue and then later on say, "Oh, I love you

1 sister," and, you know, like that. But the other two,  
2 [Sister] and Joyce, and we never -- we never had that  
3 problem -- we really get -- get along and was really close  
4 to them. And I let them stay at my house too, [Sister] and  
5 Joyce, when they need a place to stay.

6 And Joyce, she left -- she left to go to my  
7 dad's when she was young, early twenties. She end up in  
8 Solicote (Ph.) and she stayed there. And she was -- and  
9 she had a boyfriend there in Solicote. And they had --  
10 they had one boy together. So they split up. And then my  
11 sister moved back to the Reserve after they split up. Then  
12 she started drinking at the Reserve in Osnaburgh,  
13 Mishkeegogamang. And she started drinking there, and --  
14 and her boy got taken away because she was drinking.

15 And then she came back, she came back to  
16 Selowet (Ph.) and she stayed with me for a while. And  
17 that's when she came here to Thunder Bay. That must have  
18 been 2000 -- that was maybe 2000 that she came to Thunder  
19 Bay here.

20 And then we lost contact there for a while  
21 because, I don't know what she was doing. So then -- then  
22 we start connect again until she passed.

23 She was -- I got a lot of good memories of  
24 her. The last time I spent time with her was July -- July  
25 4, 2004. I remember that day. We spend -- we spent all

**Statement - Public**  
**Mary Jane Kewakundo**  
**(Joyce Francis Wesley)**

**14**

1 day together. She's -- she stayed with me. We did things  
2 together, we -- we cooked, we cooked lunch together, feed  
3 my kids, then we decide to go for a walk, just window  
4 shopping in Solicote. Then we went to Tom Beach (Ph.) to  
5 sit there at the beach and at the bench -- beach, talking,  
6 laughing.

7 And I told her that I'm moving to Fort  
8 Frances. And she says, "When?" I said, I'm moving end of  
9 the month, end of July. And she goes, "Oh, okay." She  
10 goes, "I'll come and visit you sometimes." I said, "Okay.  
11 Well, you can come and visit. You can," -- I said -- and I  
12 said to her, "You know you're welcome to stay with me I  
13 said." She said, "Yeah." And then after that, it was  
14 getting sundown so then I decided, "I better go home now,"  
15 I said. She goes, "Yeah, then go to the bar," she says.  
16 She would go the bar and she wouldn't come to my place when  
17 she's drinking. And -- and I said, "Oh, okay." So we  
18 start walking up. Then she went to -- there was a bar,  
19 used to call McVee's (Ph.) and that's when she went in.  
20 That was the last -- that was the last time I ever saw her.

21 That -- the next day she never came and --  
22 and then I heard that she went to Thunder Bay. She was  
23 trying to go to Thunder Bay that day when I spent time with  
24 her but she must have got a ride. One of my friends told  
25 me that because I was asking around if anybody seen her the

1 next day. So then I was told, "No, she's gone to Thunder  
2 Bay." That was the last time I saw her.

3 The next thing I knew that -- four years  
4 later and she -- she was gone. And she had -- she had  
5 three -- three kid -- three -- three kids, one boy and two  
6 girls. And then I think one of them -- I think one of them  
7 was [Boyfriend]'s daughter. I'm not really sure.

8 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Anything else -- excuse me.  
9 Anything else about Joyce? Her personality and stuff, you  
10 want to talk about?

11 **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** She liked to laugh.  
12 She would, like -- she was a -- she had a good sense of  
13 humour. She liked to laugh and say silly things. She was  
14 fun to be with. Like I said, the last time I spent time  
15 with her, we were just laughing, talking and -- and she  
16 would like to help out people too.

17 And she would talk about her memories as a  
18 child in -- when she was in residential school. And she  
19 would -- she was a good person. And, like, she, like --  
20 she had, like, the -- she, like, to laugh. Like I said,  
21 she was just fun to be with. And -- and same with my other  
22 sister in Vancouver. And ---

23 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Besides Joyce having to go  
24 to residential school, did that happen to all the sisters?  
25 All of your sisters and yourself, I presume?

1                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** I didn't go to ---

2                   **DEBBIE BODKIN:** No?

3                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** --- residential school  
4 but my -- my younger sisters.

5                   **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Did.

6                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** My other sisters,  
7 three and one of my brothers -- one of my brother too -- I  
8 only had one brother on my mom's side. Like, I'm the  
9 oldest on my mom's side. And there was ten of us, and  
10 there's three of us left. And my mom passed away too on  
11 that New Year's Eve on 2012. I keep saying New Year's Eve  
12 but Christmas Eve.

13                   **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Christmas.

14                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** Yeah. Christmas Eve  
15 she passed away. Then my dad passed away last December.  
16 Well, I call -- I call him my dad even though that he's my  
17 stepdad. Just passed away on December 14 last year.

18                   **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Anything else you want to  
19 share? Or questions or comments you want to put to the  
20 Commissioners -- you want to share to -- with the  
21 Commissioners as far as anything? Your sister, your  
22 family, Indigenous people in -- in general? Anything you  
23 want to share?

24                   **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** I just thinking that  
25 all those years, like, 10 years that it's been that my



1                   **CHRISTINE SIMARD-CHICAGO:** Just to let you  
2 know, like, I -- my cousin was killed in BC and one of our  
3 recommendations from our family to the Commissioners was  
4 that -- that they have a forensic team that looks at  
5 different cases, policing, coroner's reports, that kind of  
6 stuff. And they can recommend to, like, Thunder Bay  
7 Police, "You re-open this," or whatever. You know, they  
8 don't have the power to tell them but they can make  
9 recommendations.

10                   And one of the families that testified in --  
11 here in Thunder Bay, because of their testimony that they  
12 provided, they were able to get the coroner, [Coroner], to  
13 look at the case of that -- of that young lady that was --  
14 that was killed. And they re-opened the case so it's an  
15 open case now. And that was because of their testimony  
16 that they provided at the hearing. And because it sounds  
17 like it -- the case hasn't been looked at properly -- and  
18 we know Thunder Bay has a record of that, you can push for  
19 that. I know people from Mishkeegogamang that are working  
20 with the coroner's office in regards to their sisters that  
21 have been -- that are missing or murdered to investigate  
22 more, right. And that seems to be working out. And  
23 they're working with OPP too.

24                   So there are opportunities through this  
25 process if you wanted to make -- make that recommendations

1 to the Commissioners to have that -- to request to make  
2 that recommendation of Thunder Bay Police to open up your  
3 sister's case, they can do that. And to have the coroner  
4 also look at her records as well.

5 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** And I would imagine, even  
6 though you don't know whether police were involved, usually  
7 if somebody comes to the hospital ---

8 **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** Yeah.

9 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** --- that severely injured,  
10 the hospital will contact police so ---

11 **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** Yeah.

12 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** --- I would imagine there  
13 was something.

14 **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** Yeah, and that's the -  
15 - that's the other thing I was thinking too that -- when I  
16 said to be -- to be looked at is to get her records, the  
17 hospital -- hospital records. They should still have those  
18 records because it just happened 10 years ago, 2008.  
19 That's what I'd like -- I'd like to see it happen is to --  
20 to investigate this.

21 I have been watching [inaudible response] I  
22 don't know for how long. And when I watch those I think  
23 about my sister. Well, like, somebody investigators or  
24 police to look at it. But I'm not sure if they did the  
25 autopsy. I'm not sure if they did. But the hospital

Statement - Public  
Mary Jane Kewakundo  
(Joyce Francis Wesley)

20

1 should have records here at the Thunder Bay hospital. And  
2 that's where she was for 10 days before she passed.

3 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** And can you repeat Joyce's  
4 surname? Was it the same as yours or not? I didn't get it  
5 down. And could you spell it?

6 **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** Joyce Francis Wesley.

7 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Wesley spelled W-E-S-L-E-Y?

8 **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** Yeah.

9 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Okay.

10 **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** And she was born  
11 [birthdate], 1970 I think. I don't have any pictures of  
12 her. The only good mood memories I have was [inaudible  
13 response]. She had really nice long black hair too.

14 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Maybe you mentioned this and  
15 I don't remember. Your sister [Sister], is she still here?

16 **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** No, Kenora. I mean --  
17 yeah, she's still here but she's in Thunder Bay.

18 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** It's okay.

19 **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** Vancouver.

20 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Oh, Vancouver.

21 **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** Vancouver.

22 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** She's the one in Vancouver,  
23 that's right.

24 **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** Yeah.

25 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** And what is her surname?

1 Did I already get that?

2 MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO: Same. [Sister].

3 DEBBIE BODKIN: [Sister], okay.

4 MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO: That's my marry --  
5 supposed to be my married name, Kewakundo.

6 DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay.

7 MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO: Yeah. And my maiden  
8 name was Spade (Ph.) because my mom was a Spade before she  
9 got married to Wesley.

10 DEBBIE BODKIN: I have no more questions but  
11 if there's anything else, you tell me when you feel that  
12 you're finished, if there's anything else that comes up.

13 MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO: I don't know what to  
14 say. Just I wanted to say that if it's possible to be  
15 looked at, that case open -- open with -- but I don't think  
16 there was never investigation happen but I would like to  
17 see that happen, get the hospital records and just go from  
18 there because I would like to -- I would like to have  
19 answers what really happened to her. It's been 10 years  
20 that's been bugging me, without [inaudible response] to get  
21 looked at. That's all I can say.

22 DEBBIE BODKIN: Okay. Well, thank you for  
23 sharing that with us. I know how difficult it was. And I  
24 hope that things get better for you. So it's five after 11  
25 and I'll shut the equipment off. Oh, sorry, no I won't.

1 Not quite yet.

2 So back to the -- how you would like your  
3 statement whether you would like it private or public. Do  
4 you have any other questions about that?

5 **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** I would like to go  
6 public because people might come forward.

7 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** That's a very good point,  
8 yeah.

9 **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** Yeah. That's why I'd  
10 like to -- I'd like to -- I mean, public.

11 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Okay. So what I have to ask  
12 you to do, this paragraph here explains the public part.  
13 So if that's what you want, I need your initials there.  
14 This is the private part. So you can initial there if you  
15 want private. And then just your signature here somewhere.  
16 Just initial there and then down below anywhere here if  
17 you'll sign.

18 **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** And sign my name?

19 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Yes. Okay. Great.

20 **MARY JANE KEWAKUNDO:** Do you have the date  
21 or ---

22 **DEBBIE BODKIN:** Yes. I can do that too. Or  
23 one of us can do that. So now it's six minutes after 11.  
24 Shut this off.

25 --- Upon adjourning at 11:06 a.m.

LEGAL DICTA-TYPIST'S CERTIFICATE

I, Jackie Chernoff, 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.



---

Jackie Chernoff

December 17, 2018