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INTERVIEW OF LISA NOBLE

Interview Conducted by:
Linda M. Callahan

Also Present:
Doctor Barry Logan
Shannon Inglis, Assistant Attorney General
Matt Anderson, King County Prosecuting Attorney
Blakeley Warbinton

1 MS. CALLAHAN: -- has a problem with being
2 recorded?

3 MS. NOBLE: I do not.

4 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. Okay, good afternoon,
5 Ms. Noble.

6 MS. NOBLE: Hello, nice to meet you.

7 MS. CALLAHAN: Nice to meet you as well. Just a
8 few -- we'll probably get through this quicker than -- than 20
9 minutes, but if I ask any questions that you don't understand,
10 please -- please stop me and I'll be happy to clarify.

11 MS. NOBLE: Okay.

12 MS. CALLAHAN: The -- another thing I wanted to let
13 you know is that the AG is there, but I believe that -- it is
14 my understanding that her capacity is to represent the agency
15 and -- and possibly not you personally. And so if you want
16 to -- you have a right to have a lawyer. And if you want to,
17 you can have a lawyer there and we can reschedule your -- your
18 interview.

19 MS. NOBLE: No, I'm fine with (unintelligible)

20 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay, whoops, I'm sorry. We're
21 having a little bit of static there.

22 MS. NOBLE: Oh. We can continue on right now.
23 That's fine.

24 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay, thank you. All right, you
25 haven't -- I'm sorry, I asked you that already. Okay. Let

1 me -- let me begin by asking you when was the first time you
2 became aware that Ann Marie Gordon was not testing her own
3 solutions, but was signing her certificates saying that she
4 did?

5 MS. NOBLE: I first became aware of that allegation
6 when Doctor Logan let us all know of this allegation in a
7 conference here at the lab.

8 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. And that was -- was that on
9 July 20th?

10 MS. NOBLE: I'm not sure of the exact date. I
11 believe it was in July though.

12 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. And prior to this occasion,
13 have you ever personally observed Ms. Gordon with the screw
14 cap glass vial -- or jar where you keep the sample, had you
15 ever observed her personally draw aliquots from that sample
16 jar?

17 MS. NOBLE: I have not.

18 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. And how long have you been at
19 the lab?

20 MS. NOBLE: A year-and-a-half.

21 MS. CALLAHAN: A year-and-a-half, okay. So the --
22 the -- so someone in the lab was doing the testing for her.
23 Do you know who that person was?

24 MS. NOBLE: I don't have any personal knowledge of
25 it.

1 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. You just know what people
2 have said?

3 MS. NOBLE: Right.

4 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. The person who was doing the
5 testing, that person never said anything to you about doing
6 testing for her?

7 MS. NOBLE: Correct.

8 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. Now aside from this one
9 person, was there anyone else that was doing testing for her?

10 MS. NOBLE: I am not aware of anyone.

11 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. Did she ever ask you to test
12 solutions for her?

13 MS. NOBLE: No, she did not.

14 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. Has -- has anyone else asked
15 (unintelligible)

16 MS. NOBLE: I'm sorry, you cut out.

17 MS. CALLAHAN: I'm sorry, I'm sorry. We're having
18 phone issues because of the electronic -- all of the
19 electronic devices here. Has anyone -- has anyone else ever
20 asked you to -- to do testing for them?

21 MS. NOBLE: No.

22 MS. CALLAHAN: Does everyone in the lab enter their
23 own numbers into the database?

24

25

1 MS. NOBLE: Most of the time, yes. I believe if
2 someone's on vacation and left their chromatograms there from
3 the night before, someone might enter them for them.

4 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay, okay. When you -- let me --
5 let me ask you about the process of mixing the solution for
6 the external simulator. When you -- when you do that, how --
7 how long do you mix the batch?

8 MS. NOBLE: Several hours.

9 MS. CALLAHAN: And what does that mean? What -- I
10 mean what do you do personally?

11 MS. NOBLE: At least two hours. It can mix as long
12 as needed. It can mix far longer than that. It's fine to
13 continue mixing, but at least two hours.

14 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. Do you -- do you have any
15 method of keeping the time to be sure that you have at least
16 two hours?

17 MS. NOBLE: Just check the time when I begin
18 mixing.

19 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay, you make a note of it?

20 MS. NOBLE: A mental note.

21 MS. CALLAHAN: A mental note, okay. And then after
22 you've mixed the solution you take a -- you take a sample in
23 the glass screw -- screw cap glass jar and then you put that
24 in the -- I'm sorry, I don't know why the phone's doing
25

1 that -- and you put -- put that in the -- the refrigerator if
2 you're not able to test it immediately?

3 MS. NOBLE: Correct.

4 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. Now let's say that you've
5 tested the -- you've tested it and then you're called away to
6 court. So you're gone over the weekend and -- and then you
7 come back on Monday. And now you see that two other analysts
8 have -- have checked it, is it ready to be packaged now?

9 MS. NOBLE: If three people's results are correct
10 and within specifications, it is ready to be bottled.

11 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. And so can you tell me about
12 that bottling process?

13 MS. NOBLE: Sure. We have some 500 milliliter
14 plastic bottles. They're filled as high up to the top as we
15 can get them without spilling over. They're capped and then
16 their -- evidence tape is placed across the cap. Then they
17 are labeled with the simulator solution number that includes
18 the preparation date and the label that it's a simulator
19 solution. And those are boxed and sent to agencies.

20 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay, okay. So before you actually
21 start filling the -- the plastic jars, what do you do with the
22 solution, if anything?

23 MS. NOBLE: I'm not sure I understand what your
24 question is.

25

1 MS. CALLAHAN: Well, is it still -- is it still
2 being stirred?

3 MS. NOBLE: It doesn't need to be continually -- be
4 stirred before it's bottled, no.

5 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. While you're -- while you're
6 doing this process of -- of preparing the -- the solution
7 and -- and packaging it, is there anyone there to observe you
8 as -- as a part of a -- a -- a -- a protocol?

9 MS. NOBLE: Not as protocol, but it sure is a lot
10 easier to have help. We usually do it as a two person team;
11 someone -- someone aliquoting the liquid into the bottle,
12 someone putting on caps. It's sort of an assembly line, if
13 you will. But it can be done solo, it's just not very fun.

14 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. And you're referring to the
15 packaging process or are you also referring to the mixing
16 process?

17 MS. NOBLE: The packaging process, the bottling.

18 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay, okay. When you do your
19 testing, you always draw your own aliquots?

20 MS. NOBLE: Correct.

21 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. And you always enter your own
22 numbers into the software?

23 MS. NOBLE: Yes.

24 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. I -- we talked just briefly
25 about the -- the announcement that was made by Doctor Logan

1 about Ms. Gordon's resignation. Was Ms. Gordon there when he
2 said this?

3 MS. NOBLE: She was not.

4 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. So she was -- had she already
5 cleared out of her office?

6 MS. NOBLE: I believe so, yes.

7 MS. CALLAHAN: So you came to work one morning and
8 everything was gone, including her?

9 MS. NOBLE: Correct. I was out of town when she
10 announced her resignation.

11 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. So she actually had an
12 announcement as well? But you weren't there for it?

13 MS. NOBLE: I was not there.

14 MS. CALLAHAN: So that was before Doctor Logan's
15 announcement?

16 MS. NOBLE: Correct.

17 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. What were -- what were your
18 thoughts when you heard about what the allegations were?

19 MS. NOBLE: I was sad to see her leave.

20 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. And were you -- were you
21 disappointed in her?

22 MS. NOBLE: No, I was not disappointed in her.

23 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay, okay. So when you -- when you
24 sign the sheets that say that you're -- that you've tested
25 this -- you know, that you've tested this solution and -- I

1 should actually get the wording of it. When you sign under
2 penalty of perjury, I examined and tested this solution and
3 found it to conform to those standards established by the
4 State Toxicologist for certification of the simulator
5 solution. Do you take that seriously?

6 MS. NOBLE: Yes, I do.

7 MS. CALLAHAN: Shouldn't everyone who signs a -- a
8 similar oath under penalty of perjury, shouldn't -- shouldn't
9 they also do it -- take it seriously?

10 MS. NOBLE: I can only be responsible for myself.

11 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. So you -- you're not --
12 you're not a judgmental person?

13 MS. NOBLE: No, I would not say so.

14 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. What about people that break
15 the law? Do you judge people who break the law?

16 MS. NOBLE: I -- I don't know what you mean by
17 judge.

18 MS. CALLAHAN: Well, would you have a -- a personal
19 opinion about someone breaking the law?

20 MS. NOBLE: Sure.

21 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. So if -- if it turns out that
22 Ms. Gordon broke the law by perjuring herself, would -- would
23 you then be disappointed in her?

24 MS. NOBLE: I don't know how my opinion of her is
25 relevant.

1 MS. CALLAHAN: I'm not -- I'm not asking you if
2 it's relevant. I'll tell you this. I think that -- that an
3 attitude that -- that I'm hearing from you is that it's okay
4 if somebody else that I work with perjures themselves, as long
5 as I do my job. Is that your attitude?

6 MS. INGLIS: I'm going to object -- I mean to the
7 extent. I'm going to object to your question about her
8 attitude. Go ahead and ask her the questions and she can
9 answer them. But I mean her attitude is -- isn't relevant
10 here.

11 MS. CALLAHAN: It -- it is definitely on point
12 because what I am trying to uncover here is whether this kind
13 of -- of you know, lack of respect for the truth is something
14 that is endemic in this toxicologist lab. Because if that's
15 the case, then the public of the State of Washington can have
16 absolutely no confidence in anything that comes out of the
17 lab. So if in fact a person that works at the lab would turn
18 the other eye to someone who's perjuring themselves on the
19 job, I think that's important. And I think that's definitely
20 relevant. In fact it's -- it's the main core and sole issue.

21 MR. ANDERSON: You may think that. Ms. Noble has
22 indicated to you that she was unaware of what's going on.
23 She's indicated to you that she would never do that. She's
24 indicated to you that people should take their oath seriously.
25 She's not -- she has objected to your question because it's

1 irrelevant. And in fact I can understand why she would. This
2 whole fact that she doesn't apparently want to judge somebody,
3 especially when she doesn't have all the information, is
4 something that's perfectly reasonable. Quite frankly, it is
5 not relevant to this issue. She's answered the relevant
6 question about what she does, or whether or not she's aware of
7 anybody else doing things that are inappropriate.

8 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. Well I'm not going to get
9 into an argument.

10 MALE VOICE: What happened?

11 MS. CALLAHAN: I'm sorry, we're having technical --
12 I'm not going to get into an argument with counsel over this.
13 I think my point has been made. I think she's made her point
14 as well. So on that I'm going to excuse this witness.

15 MS. NOBLE: Okay.

16 MS. INGLIS: You're done? Ms. Callahan?

17 MS. CALLAHAN: Yes, Ms. Noble. Thank you very much.

18 MR. ANDERSON: Okay.

19 MS. NOBLE: Okay, thank you.

20 MS. INGLIS: Thanks.

21 MS. CALLAHAN: Okay. Doctor Logan, we have -- do
22 we have Mr. Miranda?

23 DOCTOR LOGAN: Yeah, I think he's the last person
24 we have available this afternoon.

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MS. CALLAHAN: Okay, great. And we're actually
ahead of schedule, how about that?

DOCTOR LOGAN: We'll go get him.

MS. CALLAHAN: Thank you.

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