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(1) STATE OF MARYLAND * IN THE
(2) Plaintiff(s) * CIRCUIT COURT
(3) vs. * FOR
(4) ADNAN SYED * BALTIMORE CITY
(5) Defendant(s) * Case No.: 199103042, 43, 45 & 46

(6) TRANSCRIBER'S OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
(7) (Trial)
(8)

(9) BEFORE: THE HONORABLE WILLIAM QUARLES

(10) HEARING DATE: December 13, 1999

(11)

(12) APPEARANCES:

(13) FOR THE PLAINTIFF: KEVIN URICK, ESQUIRE
(14) KATHLEEN MURPHY, ESQUIRE
(15) FOR THE DEFENDANT: CHRISTINA GUTIERREZ, ESQUIRE
(16)

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(1) PROCEEDINGS
(2) THE COURT: Would you please recall the case?
(3) MR. URICK: Good morning, your Honor State of Maryland vs Adnan
(4) Syed, cases 199103042 through 46 Kevin Urick and Kathleen Murphy for the State
(5) THE COURT: Mr. Urick, Ms. Murphy.
(6) MS. MURPHY: Good morning.
(7) MS. GUTIERREZ: Good morning, your Honor Christina Gutierrez on
(8) behalf Adnan Syed.
(9) THE COURT: Ms. Gutierrez, Mr. Syed, good morning. Counsel may
(10) we bring the jury down?(Jury enters the courtroom 11:07)
(11)

(12) THE COURT: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen I trust you had
(13) good weekends.
(14) JURY: Good morning.
(15) THE COURT: Thank you very much for your promptness. As those of
(16) you came a bit late saw, we had a courtroom full of people this morning because I handled
(17) arraignments for another judge. That will not be recurring so don't worry, we will continue
(18) to make the best use of your time as we can. But to permit one of our arraigning judges,
(19) who works very hard hearing literally dozens of cases a day, we took 26 cases for the judge
(20) this morning and we've handled 25 of them so we're in pretty good shape. Counsel?
(21) MR. URICK: With the court's permission I'll call the first witness at this
(22) time. The State, at this time, will call Emmanuel Obot to the stand
(23) EMMANUEL OBOT
(24) a witness produced on call by the Plaintiff, having been duly sworn according to law was
(25) examined and testified as follows:
(26) CLERK: State your name and assignment for the record.

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(3) MR. OBOT: Emmanuel Obot, Baltimore City Police Crime Lab
(4) THE COURT: How do you spell your name, sir?
(5) MR. OBOT: O-B-O-T, last name.
(6) THE COURT: First name?
(7) MR. OBOT: O-B-O-T, last name. Emmanuel -- E-M-M-A-N-U-E-L
(8) THE COURT: Thank you.
(9) MR. URICK: Thank you, your Honor.
(10) DIRECT EXAMINATION
(11) BY MR. URICK:
(12) Q. Good morning, Mr. Obot.
(13) A. Good morning.
(14) Q. How are you employed by the Baltimore City Police Department?
(15) A. I was brought to work in the crime lab section of the Baltimore unit
(16) Q. And what are your duties, very briefly, there?
(17) A. My primary duties are to respond to crime scene, recriminate evidence and
(18) process it according to procedure.
(19) THE COURT: Mr. Obot, if I could get you to move just back a little bit
(20) from the microphone. Unlike our other witnesses, you do have a very loud good voice so I
(21) don't need you to right up on it.
(22) Q. Drawing your attention now to March 20th of 1999. Did you have occasion to
(23) be part of a search and seizure warrant at the Defendant's residence of
(24) 7034 Johnnycake Road in Maryland?
(25) A. Yes, I did.
(26)

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BSA

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- (1) Q. And did you have occasion to collect and package evidence on that date?
- (2) A. Yes, sir. We recovered few evidence from the crime scene at 7034
- (3) Johnnycake Road.
- (4) Q. And did you submit evidence to the evidence control unit that morning?
- (5) A. Yes, sir.
- (6) Q. Now at this time, I'm going to show you a bag -- an evidence bag which has
- (7) previously been opened so the defense could view stuff in it. I'd like you take a few
- (8) moments and look at this bag.
- (9) A. Yes, I recovered this evidence.
- (10) Q. And does that reference the offense number of 99885801 which was
- (11) assigned to this instant?
- (12) A. Yes, sir.
- (13) Q. And is that property evidence, property number 99013364?
- (14) A. Yes.
- (15) Q. And that was one of the property numbers assigned to very evidence that you
- (16) submitted?
- (17) A. Yes, sir.
- (18) Q. Okay. Now I'd like you take a look at this and see if you can identify that
- (19) You. You can open it up and look at the item inside.
- (20) A. Yes. This is one of the items that was recovered at the scene.
- (21) Q. Have you had a chance to examine the evidence inside?
- (22) A. Yes, sir. This is what I found evidence at the crime scene.
- (23) Q. And is that in substantially the same condition as when it was recovered?
- (24) A. Yes, sir.
- (25) MR. URICK: At this time, I'll mark for identification purposes the bag
- (26)

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- (1) proper as State's exhibit 37. And at this time we move into evidence, State's exhibit 37.
- (2) THE COURT: What is it?
- (3) MR. URICK: It's a bag with a text book and various items in it.
- (4) MS. GUTIERREZ: Judge, there are dozens of items inside. I challenge
- (5) some on relevance. Obviously some may or may not be, but I would object at this time.
- (6) THE COURT: Okay. State's 37 is admitted.
- (7) (Evidence bag containing text book, etc. received into evidence as State's Exhibit
- (8) No. 37.)
- (9) BY MR. URICK:
- (10) Q. Now, Mr. Obot, I'm going to show you what's been marked for
- (11) identification purposes State's exhibit 36A and 36B. Have you had a chance to examine
- (12) those?
- (13) A. Yes, sir.
- (14) Q. And what are those?
- (15) A. This is the pictures (inaudible) and you can see the cars (inaudible).
- (16) Q. This time -- are those a fair and accurate depiction of where the book was
- (17) found in the Defendant's bedroom?
- (18) A. Yes, sir.
- (19) MR. URICK: Would offer as State's exhibit 36A and B, the two
- (20) photographs.
- (21) THE COURT: No objection to State's exhibit 36A and B.
- (22) (Photographs received into evidence as State's Exhibit Nos. 36A and 36B.)
- (23) MR. URICK: Would ask that they be published to the jury at this time
- (24) so that everyone can have a chance to look at them.
- (25) THE COURT: May be published.
- (26)

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- (1) MR. URICK: If you would hand them to the lady immediately to your
- (2) right. Witness for the defense.
- (3) THE COURT: Cross.
- (4) CROSS EXAMINATION
- (5) BY MS. GUTIERREZ:
- (6) Q. Yes Mr. Obot, the text book that you identified in State's exhibit 37 was
- (7) found, as the picture shows, on the shelf above what appears to be a desk along with many
- (8) other text books. Did you select that particular text book from other text books in that
- (9) shelf?
- (10) A. What happened was the detective just went through --
- (11) Q. And picked out things for you to then process?
- (12) A. (Indiscernible) that seems relevant to him.
- (13) Q. That he thought was relevant?
- (14) A. Yes.
- (15) Q. Not what you thought was relevant?
- (16) A. Well my duty, you know, is to recover evidence and (indiscernible)
- (17) Q. Okay. And that means to recover the evidence that's pointed out to you?
- (18) A. (Indiscernible)
- (19) Q. Okay. And so he pointed out -- the detective -- was that MacGilvary or
- (20) Ritz? Do you remember?
- (21) A. Ritz.
- (22) Q. Ritz. He pointed out that text book that was on the book shelf along with
- (23) other books and then you processed it.
- (24) A. I recovered it.
- (25) Q. Thank you.
- (26)

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- (1) THE COURT: Anything else?
- (2) MS. GUTIERREZ: Nothing further.
- (3) THE COURT: Any redirect?
- (4) MR. URICK: No. Can this witness be excused at this time?
- (5) THE COURT: Yes, he may. Thank you, Mr. Obot. Good day sir.
- (6) MR. URICK: Thank you, sir. If I may with the court's permission get
- (7) the next witness at this time.
- (8) THE COURT: Yes. Come up to the witness stand, sir.
- (9) MR. URICK: The State, at this time, would call Detective Joseph
- (10) O'Shea of the Baltimore County Police Department.
- (11) DETECTIVE JOSEPH O'SHEA
- (12) a witness produced on the call by the Plaintiff, having been duly sworn according to law,
- (13) was examined and testified as follows:
- (14) CLERK: State your name and assignment for the record, please.
- (15) DET. O'SHEA: Detective Joseph Michael O'Shea, Baltimore County
- (16) Police Department, Missing Persons/Homicide Unit.
- (17) DIRECT EXAMINATION
- (18) BY MR. URICK:
- (19) Q. Good morning, Detective O'Shea.
- (20) A. Good morning.
- (21) Q. Just very briefly, could you explain to the ladies and gentlemen of the jury
- (22) what your duties are in Baltimore County?
- (23) A. Yes. I am a detective with the missing persons unit of Baltimore County and
- (24) I handle adult missing persons cases -- anyone over the age of 18.
- (25) Q. Did there come a time when you became involved in the investigation of the
- (26)

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