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(3) MS. GUTIERREZ: She had answered the question, Judge.
(4) THE COURT: Please let her finish her answer. Had you completed
(5) your answer, ma'am?
(6) MS. WOODLEY: No, sir, I hadn't. I --
(7) THE COURT: Thank you.
(8) A. I had seen them together, and that was the reference I made where I saw
(9) Adnan approach Hae Lee outside of the health suite, and grab her and put his arm against
(10) the wall while he was leaning over talking to her. So I did see them together then.
(11) Q. Okay. And did you see them together ever again acting as like they were
(12) girlfriend/boyfriend? Yes or no?
(13) A. No.
(14) Q. No. And so you were not aware of whether or not they continued to be
(15) boyfriend and girlfriend after you saw them in the very beginning of the year?
(16) MR. URICK: Objection.
(17) THE COURT: Basis?
(18) MR. URICK: Relevance.
(19) THE COURT: Overruled.
(20) A. When I saw Adnan holding another girl's hand, I made the natural
(21) assumption that Adnan was seeing someone else.
(22) Q. Because that's how it appeared to you from what you observed?
(23) A. Yes.
(24) Q. That's how he appeared to be acting with a girl other than Hae Lee?
(25) A. Yes.
(26) MS. GUTIERREZ: Nothing further.
(27) THE COURT: Any redirect?

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(3) MR. URICK: Yes, very quickly, your Honor. What is a pathological
(4) liar?
(5) MS. GUTIERREZ: Objection.
(6) THE COURT: Sustained.
(7) MR. URICK: No further questions.
(8) THE COURT: You. You may step down.
(9) MS. MURPHY: Your Honor, may I step outside and get the next
(10) witness?
(11) THE COURT: Come up on the witness stand.
(12) MS. MURPHY: Your Honor, the State calls the next witness, Ms.
(13) Sharon Talmadge.
(14) SHARON TALMADGE
(15) a witness produced on call by the Plaintiff, having been duly sworn according to law, was
(16) examined and testified as follows:
(17) CLERK: Please state your name and assignment for the record.
(18) MS. TALMADGE: Sharon Talmadge. I'm assigned (indiscernible)
(19) THE COURT: Yes.
(20) MS. MURPHY: Thank you, your Honor.
(21) DIRECT EXAMINATION
(22) BY MS. MURPHY:
(23) Q. Ms. Talmadge, good afternoon.
(24) A. Good afternoon.
(25) Q. Could you briefly describe your duties in the latent print unit for the ladies
(26) and gentlemen?
(27) A. I evaluate partial latent print studies recovered from crime scenes to

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(3) determine their suitability. I compare single, partial latent prints to the prints of suspects
(4) eliminations, (indiscernible) as evidence. I testify in court. I lecture to various
(5) organizations in the latent print identification field. I supervise two employees in the latent
(6) print unit and I also supervise the (indiscernible) room. I respond to crime scenes
(7) (indiscernible) technical assistance when necessary. I also respond to the medical
(8) examiner's office to render technical assistance when necessary.
(9) Q. What type of training and experience have you had in this area?
(10) A. I was trained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the identification
(11) field. I was employed by them for approximately two years. After leaving there I came
(12) to the Baltimore Police Department. I received another two week course on classification
(13) conducted by the FBI and an advanced latent course conducted by the FBI. I've been
(14) with the Baltimore Police Department -- I started my 29th year last month and during that
(15) time I've been assigned to the latent print unit of the lab division.
(16) Q. While you've been with the latent print unit, if you can approximate, how
(17) many times you've been asked to examine latent prints?
(18) A. Hundreds of thousands of times.
(19) Q. Ms. Talmadge, have you ever testified as an expert in court -- either district
(20) court, circuit court, federal court?
(21) A. Yes. I've testified since 1973 in all of the courts that were mentioned.
(22) MS. MURPHY: Your Honor, at this time, the State would offer Ms.
(23) Talmadge as an expert in the development, examination and identification of both latent
(24) and inked prints.
(25) THE COURT: Any voir dire of qualifications?
(26) MS. GUTIERREZ: No, your Honor.
(27) THE COURT: Then the witness is qualified as an expert in the

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(3) development, examination and identification of both latent and inked prints and may testify
(4) as an expert.
(5) MS. MURPHY: Thank you, your Honor.
(6) BY MS. MURPHY:
(7) Q. Ms. Talmadge, what is an inked print?
(8) A. An inked print is the reproduction of the ridge detail that stand on your -- on
(9) your sides of your hands and also on your feet, and it's done by placing a thin film of
(10) printer's ink over the area that you want to fingerprint or palm print, and then rolling it on
(11) a contrasting background.
(12) Q. What is a latent print?
(13) A. A latent print is a reproduction of the ridge detail that I just mentioned only
(14) it's a oil, or perspiration, or a foreign matter and it's placed on an object when you touch
(15) the object.
(16) Q. What are the methods used to process prints?
(17) A. Depending upon the type of surface, there are several different methods that
(18) are used. The most common method for non-porous surfaces -- such as glass or metal --
(19) would be a graphite palette that's applied with a (indiscernible) brush. If it's on a porous
(20) material -- which would be paper, cardboard, raw wood -- we use a chemical to develop
(21) the prints that might be on the object. The chemical used most often and in this particular
(22) case is (indiscernible).
(23) Q. What factors effect whether or not a print is left on a particular surface?
(24) A. Well fingerprints and palm prints are very fragile and they're easy to destroy.
(25) Even a technician that's processing it, if it's not done properly, they can destroy the print.
(26) The condition of the surface -- if it's a very rough surface, chances are you're not going
(27) to leave or develop a latent print. If you're wearing gloves, you're not going to leave

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(3) latent prints. If you don't have enough oil, or perspiration, or a foreign matter on these
(4) areas, you're not going to leave a latent print.
(5) Q. Ms. Talmadge, I'm going to ask you to remember back to February 10th of
(6) 1999. Did you reason, around that time, to respond to the office of the medical examiner?
(7) A. Yes, I did.
(8) Q. For what reason?
(9) A. I was requested to respond to try and obtain prints from a female victim that
(10) was at the medical examiner's office at that time.
(11) Q. Can you describe what you saw there -- what the condition of the body was
(12) that you observed?
(13) A. It was a young female with long black hair and her hands were fairly
(14) decomposed so it was difficult to get a print from her fingers and palms.
(15) Q. If you know, had the autopsy already been performed when you arrived?
(16) A. Under normal conditions, yes, the autopsy is already performed.
(17) Q. Why is that done first?
(18) A. The medical examiner likes to do everything that they have to do with the
(19) body including the hands because they usually clip the fingernails. If I were to put ink on
(20) the fingers that might interfere with anything that could be under or on the fingernails so
(21) they wait until everything's done and then I respond.
(22) MS. MURPHY: May I approach the witness, your Honor?
(23) THE COURT: Yes.
(24) MS. MURPHY: Thank you.
(25) Q. Ms. Talmadge, I'm showing you what's been marked for identification as
(26) State's exhibit 3A. I'll ask you if you can identify that photograph?
(27) A. Yes. This is the person that I printed at the medical examiner's office

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(3) Q. And is this photograph show the person as the same or more (inaudible) then
(4) you observed that day?
(5) A. Yes.
(6) MS. MURPHY: Your Honor, at this I'd move to State's exhibit 3A.
(7) THE COURT: Without objection, State's 3A is admitted.
(8) (Photograph received into evidence as State's Exhibit No. 3A.)
(9) BY MS. MURPHY:
(10) Q. Ms. Talmadge, what did you do in your efforts to identify the body at the
(11) medical examiner's?
(12) A. Well as I said the hands and the fingers were particularly decomposed. So it,
(13) basically was a matter of taking my time in blotting the fingers and trying to apply the ink
(14) until I got something I thought I could work with to identify this person. And eventually I
(15) was able to obtain two fingers and a palm print from the victim.
(16) Q. And were you able to identify the victim?
(17) A. Yes, I was.
(18) Q. And what was the victim's identity?
(19) A. She was identified as Ms. Hae Lee.
(20) Q. What did you use to make the comparison?
(21) A. I was given a permanent resident card by the detective in the case, and I
(22) compared her print that got from the victim at the medical examiner's office to the print
(23) on the identification card, and was able to identify it as the right index finger of Ms. Lee.
(24) Q. Now did you have occasion to receive a report from a crime lab technician,
(25) Frank Sanders, with respect to this case?
(26) A. Yes, I did.
(27) Q. And did Technician Sanders submit to you lift cards?

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(3) A. Yes, he did.
(4) Q. Can you explain to the ladies and gentlemen what lift cards are?
(5) A. Lift cards are -- basically, if I were to respond to a crime scene and they said
(6) a partial print was on the podium, I would take my (indiscernible) brush that is load with
(7) graphite powder, twirl it over that area until I see ridge detail developing. Once I see that,
(8) I use a tape which is similar to scotch tape, put over the area where I see the ridge detail.
(9) The tape will adhere to the graphite powder which is adherent to the ridge detail and
(10) when I lift the tape, the print comes off with the tape. And it's then placed on a 3 by 5
(11) inch note card, such as this.
(12) Q. Did you have occasion to receive evidence to process under property number
(13) 99008994?
(14) A. Yes, I did.
(15) Q. What were you requested to do?
(16) A. I was requested to process evidence that was found in the trunk of 98
(17) Nissan.
(18) Q. And what were the results?
(19) A. I processed the evidence from the car, and I developed prints on an envelope
(20) and a card from the envelope.
(21) MS. MURPHY: May I approach the witness, your Honor?
(22) THE COURT: Yes.
(23) Q. Ms. Talmadge, I'm showing you what's been marked as State's exhibit 21
(24) for identification. Do you recognize that item?
(25) A. Yes, that's a copy of my report in reference to property number 99008994
(26) which was evidence from the trunk of the 98 Nissan.
(27) Q. And that report states your conclusions?

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(3) A. That's correct.
(4) MS. MURPHY: Your Honor, at this time I'd ask to move State's
(5) exhibit 21.
(6) THE COURT: Without objection, State's 21 is admitted.
(7) (Report of Sharon Talmadge received into evidence as State's Exhibit No. 21.)
(8) BY MS. MURPHY:
(9) Q. Ms. Talmadge, I'll also ask you to look at what's been admitted as State's
(10) exhibit 20A and 20B. Do you recognize those items?
(11) A. Yes. This is the envelope and the card from property number 99008994.
(12) Q. Now I noticed the handwriting on those exhibits and that you seem to pay
(13) particular attention to that writing. What does that?
(14) A. It has been marked as exhibit one and exhibit two along with the case
(15) number, and the property number, and the date that the prints were developed, along with
(16) my initials.
(17) Q. Did you make those notations?
(18) A. Yes.
(19) Q. So these are, in fact, the items you examined with respect this report. Is that
(20) correct?
(21) A. Yes.
(22) Q. What were your findings with respect to these items?
(23) A. Partial latent prints that were developed on the envelope, marked as exhibit
(24) one, and the card, which is marked exhibit two, under property number 99008994 were
(25) identified as impressions of the right middle finger, the left thumb, and the left index finger
(26) as Adnan Syed.
(27) Q. Now were the print cards received in this case examined with any other

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(3) fingerprints other than Adnan Syed?
(4) A. Yes. They were also compared to Jay Wilds with negative results.
(5) Q. And by that you mean that they were found not to be the same as Jay Wilds?
(6) A. That's correct.
(7) Q. Ms. Talmadge, did you also receive property under property 99008895 in
(8) this case?
(9) A. Yes, I did.
(10) MS. MURPHY: May I approach the witness, your Honor?
(11) THE COURT: Yes.
(12) BY MS. MURPHY:
(13) Q. I'll show you what's been pre-marked as State's exhibit number 25 and ask
(14) you to identify that.
(15) A. This is a copy of the report that was issued from the latent print unit on
(16) property number 99008995.
(17) Q. And what were you asked to do?
(18) A. To process evidence from the glove box of the 98 Nissan.
(19) Q. Does that report clearly state your conclusions with respect to those items?
(20) A. Yes.
(21) MS. MURPHY: Your Honor, I offer State's exhibit 25 at this time.
(22) THE COURT: Without objection, State's 25 is admitted.
(23) (Fingerprint report of Sharon Talmadge received into evidence as State's Exhibit
(24) No. 25.)
(25) BY MS. MURPHY:
(26) Q. What were your conclusions with respect to those particular items?
(27) A. A partial latent print was developed on a Nationwide Insurance identification

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(3) A. Yes.
(4) MS. MURPHY: I offer the report, your Honor, as State's exhibit
(5) number 18.
(6) THE COURT: Without objection, State's 18 is admitted
(7) (Latent print report of Sharon Talmadge received into evidence as State's Exhibit
(8) No. 18.)
(9) BY MS. MURPHY:
(10) Q. And what were your conclusions, Ms. Talmadge, with respect to that
(11) property number?
(12) A. A partial print that was developed on the back cover of a map book marked
(13) exhibit 1-I under property number 99008998 was identified as an impression of the left
(14) palm of Adnan Syed.
(15) Q. I'll show you now what's been admitted as State's exhibit 17 into evidence
(16) and ask you if you recognize this item.
(17) (Map book received into evidence as State's Exhibit No. 17.)
(18) A. Yes. This is the map book that was marked as exhibit 1 under case number
(19) 885801, property number 99008998.
(20) Q. Can you please state for the ladies and gentlemen of the jury, what were your
(21) conclusions with respect to this item?
(22) A. Several partial prints were developed in the map book -- in and on the map
(23) book, and a partial print that was developed on the back cover was identified as the left
(24) palm of Adnan Syed.
(25) Q. And again, were those prints under that property number compared with any
(26) others?
(27) A. Remaining prints were compared to the prints of Jay Wilds with negative

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(3) card, which is marked exhibit two, and it was identified as an impression of the right
(4) middle of Adnan Syed.
(5) Q. Ms. Talmadge, I'll show you what's been admitted as State's exhibit 24. Do
(6) you recognize that item?
(7) (Insurance identification card received into evidence as State's Exhibit No. 24.)
(8) A. Yes.
(9) Q. Can you identify it?
(10) A. This is the identification card that's marked exhibit two and this is an MVA
(11) registration certificate marked exhibit one.
(12) Q. And with respect to State's exhibit 24, what were your results?
(13) A. That a partial print that was developed on the insurance identification card
(14) was identified as an impression of the middle finger of Adnan Syed.
(15) Q. And were the items submitted to you under that property number compared
(16) with any other prints?
(17) A. The remaining prints were compared with Jay Wilds with negative results.
(18) Q. Did you also receive property under property number 99008998?
(19) A. Yes, I did.
(20) MS. MURPHY: May I approach, your Honor?
(21) THE COURT: Yes, you may.
(22) BY MS. MURPHY:
(23) Q. I'll show you now what's been pre-marked as State's exhibit 18. Can you
(24) identify that, please.
(25) A. It's a copy of the report issued from the latent print unit in reference to a
(26) map recovered from the 98 Nissan under property number 99008998.
(27) Q. And does that report accurately state your conclusions?

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(3) results.
(4) Q. And finally, Ms. Talmadge, did you also receive property under property
(5) number 99009000?
(6) A. Yes, I did.
(7) MS. MURPHY: May I approach, your Honor?
(8) Q. I'll show you what's been marked as State's exhibit 23 for identification.
(9) Can you identify this item?
(10) A. This is also a report from the latent print unit in reference to evidence from
(11) the back seat of the 98 Nissan under property number 99009000.
(12) Q. Does this report accurately state your results?
(13) A. Yes.
(14) MS. MURPHY: Your Honor, I offer to the court State's exhibit 23.
(15) THE COURT: Okay. Twenty-three is admitted.
(16) (Latent print report received into evidence as State's Exhibit No. 23.)
(17) Q. Ms. Talmadge, I'll show you what's part of property that has been admitted
(18) as State's exhibit 22 in this case. Can you identify this item?
(19) (Floral paper received into evidence as State's Exhibit No. 22.)
(20) A. Yes. This is the floral paper that was recovered from the back seat of the 98
(21) Nissan and it's marked exhibit one, the case number -- a property number of 99009000.
(22) Q. Thank you. And what are your conclusions regarding this item?
(23) A. Partial right prints that were developed on this floral paper were identified as
(24) impressions of the left index finger, the left thumb, and the left palm of Adnan Syed.
(25) Q. And were those prints compared with any others?
(26) A. They were compared with Jay Wilds with negative results.
(27) Q. Now the items that you have just identified as being -- showing positive

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(13) prints for the Defendant, those are not the only prints that were developed. Is that
(14) correct?
(15) A. That's correct.
(16) Q. What efforts did you make with respect to the other developed prints to
(17) identify where those prints came from?
(18) A. Well as I said, any remaining print that might have been on any of those items
(19) along with prints that Mr. Sanders might have recovered from the crime scene were then
(20) entered into our -- into our automated print identification system, and searched against
(21) the data base, and it's a total of 16 prints that were entered into the computer system with
(22) negative results.
(23) Q. Thank you, Ms. Talmadge.
(24) MS. MURPHY: I have no other questions, your Honor.
(25) THE COURT: Cross?
(26) MS. GUTIERREZ: Yes. May I approach the witness, your Honor?
(27) THE COURT: You. You may.
(28) CROSS EXAMINATION
(29) BY MS. GUTIERREZ:
(30) Q. You. You were asked -- I think it's State's exhibit 23 -- floral paper. Ms
(31) Talmadge. This floral paper describes an outer wrapping, does it not?
(32) A. Yes.
(33) Q. And there is inside a sort of waxy tissue paper?
(34) A. On the tissue paper, if we were to spray that with a chemical, the green that's
(35) on there would run all over everything.
(36) Q. So you didn't?
(37) A. No.

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(40) Q. I just wanted to make sure. From the way you described it, this floral paper
(41) that's on the outside and it's green tissue on the inside.
(42) A. That's correct.
(43) Q. And inside the green tissue paper is an impression of the tree, the thorns, or
(44) some kind of once living --
(45) A. I did not process that.
(46) Q. You. You didn't process that?
(47) A. No.
(48) Q. But that's inside here, is it not?
(49) A. Yes.
(50) Q. And what appear to be fragments of leaves?
(51) A. That's correct. I did not process that.
(52) Q. Okay. Now you don't know what was inside here, do you?
(53) A. No, I do not.
(54) Q. You. You don't, in fact, know whether anything was ever inside of here?
(55) A. No, I don't.
(56) Q. And you don't know where it was in the car?
(57) A. Only from the report that it was in the back seat.
(58) Q. In the back seat of the car?
(59) A. Yes.
(60) Q. You. You got a description of that which is submitted to you to see if in
(61) fact, it's a surface from which you can lift fingerprints. Is that correct?
(62) A. That is correct.
(63) Q. Because Ms. Talmadge, as you told us, there are variations on the surface of
(64) materials that retain fingerprints, are there not?

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(67) A. That's correct.
(68) Q. And those variations would account for different chemicals that you might
(69) use to see if, in fact, you can recover latent prints that you -- to recover prints that you
(70) might be able to then compare to something else, correct?
(71) A. That's correct.
(72) Q. Okay. And there are -- depending upon the surface, they may or may not
(73) pick up fingerprints of a person who's prints or palm touched that surface. Isn't that
(74) correct?
(75) A. That's correct.
(76) Q. Because there are variations of the angle that somebody might hit, even a flat
(77) non-course surface like paper. Is that correct?
(78) A. That's correct.
(79) Q. Even a flat non-course surface like flat metal that has no coarseness to
(80) absorb oils and perspiration. Is that correct?
(81) A. That's correct.
(82) Q. Or even if it's a service like glass, correct?
(83) A. Correct.
(84) Q. The more non-course a surface, the longer that it is likely a print can remain
(85) there, is it not?
(86) A. Actually, on a non-course surface --
(87) Q. Right. That's what I meant.
(88) A. -- it's less likely to remain.
(89) Q. Less likely to remain. Because it's non-course, there's not place for it to go
(90) -- the oils and the perspirations, correct?
(91) A. That's correct.

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(94) Q. Okay. And also because a non-course flat service, like glass, can be easily
(95) wiped off. Is that correct?
(96) A. That's correct.
(97) Q. Where as a course surface can absorb the oils and the perspirations contained
(98) in human skin, particularly at the extremities, for a much longer period of time. Can they
(99) not?
(100) A. That's correct.
(101) Q. In fact, the term that you used -- latent -- signifies that they are fingerprints
(102) that would not be visible to the naked eye -- even a trained one, correct?
(103) A. That is correct.
(104) Q. Even you -- a trained fingerprint examiner -- would not ordinarily see all the
(105) fingerprints available to the naked eye, correct?
(106) A. Not until it's processed.
(107) Q. Okay. And it's generally processed depending on the surface with some type
(108) of chemical of some sort, is it not?
(109) A. That's correct.
(110) Q. And that chemical highlights the fingerprints. Is that correct?
(111) A. (Indiscernible) reaction to the latent print residue and makes the print visible
(112) Q. Okay. And then you lift it off with this tape so that you can then compare it
(113) first by the naked eye, correct?
(114) A. Well on coarse services such as paper, we actually have to have it
(115) photographed.
(116) Q. Photographed. But because of the contrast, you can then see the ridge detail
(117) that gives you something to compare something with. Is that correct?
(118) A. That is correct.

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(3) Q. Now you told us at the end of your direct, Ms. Talmadge, that you submitted
(4) 16 other found latent prints to be processed through a computer. Is that correct?

(5) A. That's correct.

(6) Q. Okay. Now that means that other than the three you have told us about -- if

(7) that's a correct summarization of three -- ones on the floral paper, correct?

(8) A. Floral paper.

(9) Q. Okay. And the ones on the note and the envelope, correct?

(10) A. The card and the envelope.

(11) Q. And the ones on the map book, correct?

(12) A. Correct.

(13) Q. And when you say the map book, you are referring to this whole item in my

(14) hand that has been marked as State's exhibit 17, are you not?

(15) A. I processed about 40 pages of it.

(16) Q. Okay. And you were looking for latent prints, were you not?

(17) A. Yes.

(18) Q. You didn't pre-determine where you would look, did you?

(19) A. Well I determined what areas I was going to process within the book.

(20) Q. Okay. But I'm saying you didn't pre-determine before you picked the book

(21) that you're going to pick page one, two, or whatever, did you?

(22) A. No.

(23) Q. Okay. You were randomly looking for something that your experience told

(24) you was the best shot to retrieve latent fingerprints from an object such as this. Is that

(25) correct?

(26) A. That's correct.

(27) Q. And the fingerprint that you've identified you've recovered is actually on the

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(3) MS. GUTIERREZ: May I approach the witness, your Honor?

(4) Q. May I ask you to look at what's been marked as State's exhibit 16 now Ms.
(5) Talmadge? If you could take a look at that. Can you tell us if that's the page that was
(6) submitted to you?

(7) A. Yes, it was submitted.

(8) Q. Okay. And it's because it has some identification on it that you may
(9) (indiscernible) it?(10) A. I can actually see the remainder of the residue from the chemical that we
(11) used.

(12) Q. And from this page, you picked up no known latent print that you were able

(13) to compare with the print that was submitted to you of my client Adnan Syed?

(14) A. That's correct.

(15) Q. That's correct. Meaning that there was not anything that could be compared
(16) to and as identified as his print, could there?

(17) A. That's correct.

(18) Q. Okay. Now as to fingerprinting, the palm print that you've identified as
(19) being on the back once intact cover where the seam is, you can't -- although you can
(20) identify it as belonging to the prints that were submitted to you as belonging to Adnan
(21) you of course -- even in your expertise -- can't tell us when that palm print was put
(22) there, can you?

(23) A. Scientifically I cannot tell you when the palm print was on the map book.

(24) Q. And you wouldn't attempt to do so, would you?

(25) A. No.

(26) Q. Because that's outside of your expertise, is it not?

(27) A. That's correct.

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(3) cover of the book, is it not?

(4) A. The back cover.

(5) Q. The back cover. The one that's sort of torn off?

(6) A. Yes.

(7) Q. And you, of course, don't know how it got torn off, do you?

(8) A. It was torn off by our photographer so that he could better photograph the
(9) print that was on there.(10) Q. Okay. So when you got this book the back cover was as intact as the front
(11) cover is, isn't it?

(12) A. That's correct.

(13) Q. Okay. And it was torn off of the binding in order to assist you and your
(14) photographer in the process. Is that correct?

(15) A. That's correct.

(16) Q. And the fingerprint was found somewhere on the back cover. Is that
(17) correct?

(18) A. It was actually found on -- right under that exhibit tab.

(19) Q. Right up here?

(20) A. (Shakes head yes.)

(21) Q. Right where my finger is? Right up there. And that was the fingerprint that

(22) you identified as being compared to the prints of Adnan Syed. Is that correct?

(23) A. It was a palm print, yes.

(24) Q. A palm print. Okay. And other than this map book, you were submitted

(25) pages separately from this map book, were you not?

(26) A. I believe it was one page that was separate.

(27) Q. Okay. May I ask --

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(3) Q. In your expertise, however, you are aware that fingerprints can be put on
(4) surfaces -- course and non-course alike -- and remain there almost indefinitely, are you
(5) not?

(6) A. Yes.

(7) Q. Unless they are inadvertently wiped away?

(8) A. Under ideal circumstances.

(9) Q. Okay. Meaning, under ideal circumstances, if a palm print is deposited on
(10) some surface like this glossy back cover of the Greater Baltimore map and it was not
(11) disturbed, it might remain there forever, could it not?

(12) A. That's correct.

(13) Q. And this is a particularly good surface for it to remain on, is it not? Well let
(14) me ask another way. I don't mean to botch you.

(15) A. I don't even know if I can answer that question.

(16) Q. That's fine. I'll ask you another question. There's nothing about this surface
(17) that indicates to you that it's not a good surface on which fingerprints are made?

(18) A. No.

(19) Q. Most surfaces -- any of us human being who have fingerprints, which is
(20) most of us, when we touch things ordinarily we leave fingerprints, correct?(21) A. You leave finger marks. It has to be determined if they are suitable or not
(22) suitable for comparison.

(23) Q. Meaning they might be there but there's no way to correctly retrieve them?

(24) A. Or identify them.

(25) Q. Or identify them as being whoever the person was. Is that correct?

(26) A. That's correct.

(27) Q. That's your expertise, correct?

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 (3) A. Yes.
 (4) Q. Okay. Now you were asked to review in this case more than those three
 (5) items, were you not?
 (6) A. Yes, I was.
 (7) Q. The 16 items that you submitted for the computer, you did not get just from
 (8) those three items, did you -- the note and it's envelope, the floral paper, or the map book?
 (9) A. There were several -- as I said -- several prints from the map book and
 (10) (indiscernible) exhibits a through i.
 (11) Q. And did you ever identify who was the person, by their fingerprints or their
 (12) palm, that deposited the other fingerprints that were left on the map book?
 (13) A. No, I did not.
 (14) Q. And you, of course -- because it's outside of your expertise -- can't assist
 (15) us in determining when any of those several fingerprints that you were able to lift from the
 (16) surface of the map book were put there, can you?
 (17) A. No, I cannot.
 (18) Q. You can't tell that any more than you can tell when the palm print that you
 (19) saw and identified on the back cover of that map book was put there?
 (20) A. No, I cannot.
 (21) Q. You can't tell if this one came before the other, correct?
 (22) A. That's correct.
 (23) Q. Or at the same time?
 (24) A. That's correct.
 (25) Q. Or under what circumstances?
 (26) A. That's correct.
 (27) Q. You can't even tell us, for instance, if my client, Adnan Syed, was the owner

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 (3) Q. Ordinarily you're asked to compare latent prints with known prints or latent
 (4) prints with a computer based on someone else's submitting it and asking you to do so.
 (5) isn't that correct?
 (6) A. That's correct.
 (7) Q. You don't ordinarily retrieve or identify evidence from wherever it comes
 (8) do you?
 (9) A. I only process what is submitted to me.
 (10) Q. Submitted to you. You don't pick and choose what the evidence is correct?
 (11) A. That's correct.
 (12) Q. You only look at what's submitted to you. Is that correct?
 (13) A. That's correct.
 (14) Q. Okay. And what other -- other than knowing that they were inside the
 (15) Nissan -- what other information were you given? Were you given, for instance, every
 (16) single item that was discovered to be inside the Nissan at the same time that any of that
 (17) evidence was collected? Do you know?
 (18) A. I would've received everything that was collected by the technician from the
 (19) glove box, the trunk, the --
 (20) Q. So that's means whatever that technician -- and by technician -- let me
 (21) clarify -- are you referring to a mobile crime lab technician?
 (22) A. That's correct.
 (23) Q. Okay. So everything that that technician identified, marked, and then bagged
 (24) to be submitted to you?
 (25) A. That's correct.
 (26) Q. But it's not the technician that fills out the requisition form that is a request --
 (27) a formal request to you as an expert to take that evidence and try to see if you can get

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 (3) of that map book, can you?
 (4) A. No, I cannot.
 (5) Q. Or how it got to the place from where it was recovered that led to it being
 (6) submitted to you to be analyzed. You can't tell us that, can you?
 (7) A. No, I cannot.
 (8) Q. You couldn't tell us, for instance, if it was his book in his car and moved
 (9) more than a year before it ever got to you into somebody else's car from whence it was
 (10) recovered. You can't tell us that, can you?
 (11) A. No, I cannot.
 (12) Q. Okay. Now other than the fingerprints in addition to the three that we've
 (13) discussed -- the paper, the note, and the map book -- that you recovered on the map
 (14) book itself, you also recovered some of those fingerprints that you submitted to the
 (15) computer data bank from other surfaces, did you not?
 (16) A. That's correct.
 (17) Q. And what were some of those other surfaces?
 (18) A. A property assessment, a Discover card envelope -- an envelope that was
 (19) addressed to Kim, I think it's Yaun. There were several prints on that.
 (20) Q. Do you know or were you given the exact location of any of those items --
 (21) A. These were --
 (22) Q. -- that you were asked to attempt to locate fingerprints from?
 (23) A. These papers were from the glove box of a 98 Nissan.
 (24) Q. Nissan. And you, of course, didn't see the Nissan, did you?
 (25) A. No, I did not.
 (26) Q. And that would not have been out of the ordinary, would it have been?
 (27) A. No.

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 (3) prints from it, is it?
 (4) A. No, it isn't.
 (5) Q. You receive that request, ordinarily, from a police detective. Is that correct?
 (6) A. That's correct.
 (7) Q. Or a police officer. Is that correct?
 (8) A. That's correct.
 (9) Q. In this case, you received a request to retrieve latents and/or compare with
 (10) other latent prints or known prints -- ink or otherwise -- from a detective in this case, did
 (11) you not?
 (12) A. That's correct.
 (13) Q. And who asked you to do such a comparison?
 (14) A. Detective MacGilivray.
 (15) Q. Detective MacGilivray. And did you -- on the request itself it indicates you
 (16) should compare any latent prints that you can observe to the prints of two separate
 (17) suspects. Isn't that correct?
 (18) A. Two separate people, yes.
 (19) Q. Okay. And, in fact, those people are marked as suspects right on your
 (20) requisition form, are they not?
 (21) A. They're listed in that section of the request form, yes.
 (22) Q. Okay. And that section of the request form has it as an identification of any
 (23) suspects, does it not?
 (24) A. It says section one request form comparison and then in parenthesis it has
 (25) enter suspects/Defendants underneath the (indiscernible) numbers.
 (26) Q. Okay. And there are suspects/Defendants entered in that specific space, is
 (27) there not?

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 (3) A. There are two names, yes.
 (4) Q. And one is Adnan Syed?
 (5) A. Correct.
 (6) Q. And one is Jay Wilds. Is that correct?
 (7) A. That is correct.
 (8) Q. And the date of the request submitted to you is dated? For you to do such
 (9) analysis.
 (10) A. March 24th.
 (11) Q. Now in regard -- you were talking about the difficulty in obtaining a good
 (12) set of fingerprints on the victim's body -- Hae Lee's. I think that was February the 10th of
 (13) 1999, correct?
 (14) A. Around February the 10th, yes.
 (15) Q. Okay. And as you said, it was normal that you be called in last if you're
 (16) going to do something like fingerprints to a body, correct?
 (17) A. That's correct.
 (18) Q. And that's because the medical examiner wanted to have first go to do
 (19) things, for instance, on the hands like clip the nails, correct?
 (20) A. That's correct.
 (21) Q. Okay. And touching somebody's fingerprints -- dead or alive -- touching
 (22) their fingertips does not remove their fingerprint, does it?
 (23) A. Under normal circumstances, no, it does not.
 (24) Q. Okay. But under these circumstances, it was clear that this body had been
 (25) dead for quite awhile, was it not?
 (26) A. That's correct.
 (27) Q. It was clear even to you -- a non-medical personnel -- was it not?

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 (3) A. Yes.
 (4) Q. That there was a great deal of decomposition to the body?
 (5) A. On the hands, yes.
 (6) Q. Particularly on the hands -- on the extremities, correct?
 (7) A. That's correct.
 (8) Q. Okay. But you were able to obtain a good set of prints from which -- that
 (9) you ultimately were able to -- with another set of fingerprints submitted to you -- make a
 (10) positive identification, were you not?
 (11) A. That's correct.
 (12) Q. Okay. And you said one of the reasons is the clipping of fingernails. Do you
 (13) recall whether or not the fingernails of Hae Min Lee's body were clipped --
 (14) MS. MURPHY: Objection.
 (15) Q. -- before --
 (16) THE COURT: Overruled.
 (17) Q. -- you got there?
 (18) A. I really don't recall but I do have a Polaroid photograph that I took.
 (19) Q. May I see that? If you could look at it for a minute. Can you tell whether or
 (20) not her fingernails were clipped?
 (21) A. It appears that they were clipped.
 (22) Q. Okay. And there wasn't anything unusual about that to you -- was there?
 (23) A. No.
 (24) Q. Okay. All three fingers -- all three Polaroids are all of portions of her body.
 (25) Are they -- those two are clearly fingers. Can you tell that?
 (26) A. That's the palm.
 (27) Q. That's the palm of her hand. And these are all taken by you or your

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 (3) photographer on the same day that you actually obtained her fingerprints. Is that correct?
 (4) A. That's correct.
 (5) MS. GUTIERREZ: We would like to have these marked as defense
 (6) exhibit one.
 (7) Q. Ms. Talmadge, I'm going to show you again what's now been marked as
 (8) defense exhibit A, B, and C. On A and B, they clearly show the digits of the fingers of
 (9) Ms. Lee, do they not?
 (10) A. Yes, and a portion of the palm.
 (11) Q. And a portion of the palm. Just referring your eye to the digits, it is clear
 (12) from looking at the fingernail beds that, in fact, the tip of them have been clipped. Is it not?
 (13) A. It does appear that way.
 (14) Q. It does appear to be. Is that correct?
 (15) A. Yes.
 (16) Q. And though you do not recall, that is not out of the ordinary in this case. Is
 (17) that correct?
 (18) A. No.
 (19) Q. Because that would have been one of the reasons you had to wait until the
 (20) very end before you were allowed to touch this young girl's body, correct?
 (21) A. That's correct.
 (22) Q. When you used the terminology, Ms. Talmadge, you said you compared the
 (23) fingerprints that you retrieved -- the latent fingerprints that you were able to retrieve from
 (24) various evidence, and you ultimately compared them also with the prints of Jay Wilds. Do
 (25) you recall that?
 (26) A. Yes.
 (27) Q. And in answer to each question, you used the language that "the remaining

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 (3) were compared with negative results." Do you recall that?
 (4) A. Yes.
 (5) Q. By that you meant to tell us that you couldn't find a match between what you
 (6) saw in the latent fingerprints recovered from the evidence and the ink blots of Jay Wilds'
 (7) fingers and palms. Is that correct?
 (8) A. That's correct.
 (9) Q. Okay. It just meant that you could not compare those two things. Is that
 (10) correct?
 (11) A. I did compare them and they were negative.
 (12) Q. Okay. By negative though, you mean you're comparing what you recovered
 (13) from the evidence, correct?
 (14) A. Yes.
 (15) Q. And his actual prints as taken by someone. Is that correct?
 (16) A. That's correct.
 (17) Q. Okay. And submitted to you on a card where you could identify each finger
 (18) Is that correct?
 (19) A. That's correct.
 (20) Q. Okay. But again, you were not submitted all of the evidence that was
 (21) collected from that car, correct?
 (22) A. I was only submitted the evidence that --
 (23) Q. The technician got, correct?
 (24) A. Correct.
 (25) Q. And the technician thought -- to your knowledge -- what the technician
 (26) chose to collect or the what the detectives chose to collect?
 (27) A. What they perceived as evidence.

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 (3) Q. Okay. Other than the request that you got that's dated on March the 10th,
 (4) did you receive any other request for comparison for any other evidence? As to either any
 (5) other evidence or as to any other suspect?
 (6) A. I received two other requests. I did process a pair of shoes from the back
 (7) seat of the 98 Nissan.
 (8) Q. That's the same car that we've been talking about, correct?
 (9) A. That's correct.
 (10) Q. The same car from which all this other evidence was taken, correct?
 (11) A. That's correct.
 (12) Q. Okay. And to do what with those shoes?
 (13) A. Process them for latent prints.
 (14) Q. Okay. The shoes themselves. Is that correct?
 (15) A. Yes.
 (16) Q. One of those pairs of those shoes, was a pair of women's dress shoes?
 (17) A. As I recall they were, yes.
 (18) Q. Okay. And the other pair of shoes was a pair of sneakers?
 (19) A. I really don't recall the sneakers.
 (20) Q. Okay. But in any event, another pair of shoes, correct?
 (21) A. Yes.
 (22) Q. To compare -- look on the surface or the sole of those shoes to see if you
 (23) could recover any latent prints. Is that correct?
 (24) A. That's correct.
 (25) Q. And that was subsequent to the March 10th request?
 (26) A. March 24th.
 (27) Q. Okay. And as a result of that request, did you find any matches or

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 (3) Q. Okay. And nothing else was ever submitted to you. Ms. Talmadge let me
 (4) ask -- if there were a person who was in and out of that car -- let's say the owner of the
 (5) car were in and out of that car on a daily or almost daily basis, would you expect to find
 (6) their fingerprints inside of the car?
 (7) A. It would be possible.
 (8) Q. It would be possible. And it would be possible, in fact, that even if the car
 (9) had been washed on a regular basis, would it have not?
 (10) A. It would depend upon what was processed on the inside -- what was
 (11) recovered from the inside.
 (12) Q. And what the surface of was -- materials on the inside of the car, would it
 (13) not?
 (14) A. That's correct.
 (15) Q. If there were a family member of the owner of the car who regularly drove
 (16) the car or was in and out of the car, it would also be possible to retrieve that person's
 (17) fingerprints from inside surfaces of the car. Would that not be correct?
 (18) A. That's correct.
 (19) Q. And from items inside the car. Is that correct?
 (20) A. That's correct.
 (21) Q. And you would be able to retrieve those kind of fingerprints, notwithstanding
 (22) your other lack of knowledge as to when and under what circumstances that person had
 (23) been in the car, correct?
 (24) A. That's correct.
 (25) Q. And so if there were a rider of that car, you would expect to find their
 (26) fingerprints, correct?
 (27) A. Correct.

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 (3) comparisons?
 (4) A. We processed them with negative results
 (5) Q. Negative results meaning you couldn't find anything with which to compare.
 (6) Is that correct?
 (7) A. That's correct.
 (8) Q. And at that point, you had the fingerprints and palm prints of Adnan Syed.
 (9) Is that correct?
 (10) A. That's correct.
 (11) Q. And the fingerprints and palm prints of Jay Wilds?
 (12) A. That's correct.
 (13) Q. Did there come a time when the fingerprints and the palm prints of a person
 (14) by the name of [REDACTED] were submitted to you?
 (15) A. No, they were not. "Mr. S" referred to here
 (16) Q. Have you ever heard that name in connection with your work on this case --
 (17) on any part of it?
 (18) A. No, I have not.
 (19) Q. And did you, Ms. Talmadge, put any restrictions on the police department as
 (20) to how many names -- of how many suspects they could submit evidence against which
 (21) you were to compare any evidence that you could recover?
 (22) A. No.
 (23) Q. If they had submitted to you a list of 10 names, would you have conducted
 (24) the very same thorough analysis that you did as you've described to us today?
 (25) A. Yes.
 (26) Q. If they had submitted 20 names, would you have done the same thing?
 (27) A. Yes.

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 (3) Q. And there was nothing about any of the material submitted to you, other than
 (4) what you've read off, that identified the things in the car as belonging to any given person.
 (5) Did they?
 (6) A. No, they were not identified as being to a particular person, just from the
 (7) particular vehicle.
 (8) MR. GUTIERREZ: Thank you, Ms. Talmadge. I have nothing further.
 (9) THE COURT: Any redirect?
 (10) MS. MURPHY: Just briefly, your Honor.
 (11) REDIRECT EXAMINATION
 (12) BY MS. MURPHY:
 (13) Q. Ms. Talmadge, the request that you've testified about came through the
 (14) Baltimore City Police Department. Is that correct?
 (15) A. You mean for the request for comparison?
 (16) Q. Yes.
 (17) A. Yes.
 (18) Q. Is the police department the only source for a request? In other words, are
 (19) the detectives the only people that can ask you to make a comparison of evidence and
 (20) fingerprints?
 (21) A. No, they are not.
 (22) Q. Who can make requests?
 (23) MS. GUTIERREZ: Objection.
 (24) THE COURT: Overruled.
 (25) A. Basically, anyone that has a knowledge of how the system works can ask us
 (26) to compare the prints of someone to prints recovered from a crime scenes and, if at all
 (27) possible, we will honor their request.

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(3) Q. What do they have to do to make a request?
(4) A. Basically, they have to know certain information like who the person is, and
(5) are we going to use prints that were obtained for elimination purposes, or does that person
(6) have record so that we have a record on file, and then what particular case number that
(7) they want the prints checked against.
(8) Q. And they would just put this in writing?
(9) A. We prefer they put it in writing, yes, so that we have a record of --
(10) evidencing that we process.
(11) Q. If you received such a request from anyone, you would conduct the same
(12) analysis that you've described here today?
(13) A. It would be within reason of who everyone would be, but anyone that
(14) (indiscernible) we would try to the comparison
(15) Q. And if I understand the cross examination, your testimony is that you
(16) received no other names -- no other requests than the ones you've described here today?
(17) A. That's correct.
(18) Q. Also on cross examination, you were shown State's exhibit 16 -- the page
(19) from the map?
(20) A. Yes.
(21) Q. So that I understand your responses to those questions, were there any
(22) suitable prints developed from this page?
(23) A. No, there was not.
(24) Q. So if I understand your testimony, even if this page was handled, there were
(25) no suitable prints developed?
(26) A. That's correct.
(27) Q. Ms. Talmadge -- to be clear -- you didn't find a match between the prints

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(3) A. Correct.
(4) Q. Donald Cliendienst wasn't submitted to you, was he?
(5) A. No.
(6) Q. Any other name of any other student who was student a student at
(7) Woodlawn wasn't submitted to you, was it?
(8) A. No, they were not.
(9) Q. No other name was submitted to you?
(10) A. That's correct.
(11) MS. GUTIERREZ: Thank you.
(12) THE COURT: Very good. May the witness be excused?
(13) MS. MURPHY: Yes, your Honor.
(14) THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Talmadge. You are free to go. Ladies
(15) and gentlemen, we're going to take our afternoon break now. Please return to the jury
(16) room. We will call on you by 10 minutes after 4. Thank you.
(17) (Jury was excused from courtroom 15:50)
(18) THE COURT: Counsel, please be in place at 10 minutes after 4
(19) (Court takes a brief recess 15:51 - 16:09)
(20) THE COURT: Counsel, are you ready for the jury?
(21) MR. URICK: Yes, your Honor.
(22) MS. GUTIERREZ: Yes, your Honor.
(23) (Jury enters courtroom 16:10)
(24) MR. URICK: With the court's permission, I'll get the next witness at
(25) this time.
(26) THE COURT: Please come up to the witness stand.
(27) MR. URICK: At this time, the State will call Krista [REDACTED] to the stand

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(3) that were developed on the items you've identified and any person other than the
(4) Defendant, Adnan Syed.
(5) MS. MURPHY: Thank you. No other questions, your Honor.
(6) THE COURT: Recross?
(7) CROSS EXAMINATION
(8) BY MS. GUTIERREZ:
(9) Q. Ms. Talmadge, the only other person whose prints you were asked to
(10) examine was Jay Wilds. Is that correct?
(11) A. That's correct.
(12) Q. So you didn't attempt to find anyone else's on anything except for Adnan
(13) Syed and Jay Wilds. Is that correct?
(14) A. And the computer search.
(15) Q. And the computer search. Is that correct?
(16) A. That's correct.
(17) Q. Okay. And that's done to just compare the prints that you get with what's
(18) in the computer bank. Is that correct?
(19) A. That's correct.
(20) Q. And you got no positive information. Is that correct?
(21) A. That's correct.
(22) Q. There weren't any other suspects submitted to you. Is that correct?
(23) A. That's correct.
(24) Q. By any name. Is that correct?
(25) A. That's correct.
(26) Q. Not just the name of [REDACTED] -- that wasn't submitted to you,
(27) correct? Again, Mr. S referred to here

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(1) ACCUSCRIBES TRANSCRIPTION SERVICE
(2) (410) 367-3838 FAX: (410) 367-3883
(3) KRISTA [REDACTED]
(4) a witness produced on call by the Plaintiff, having been duly sworn according to law, was
(5) examined and testified as follows:
(6) CLERK: State your name and address for the record.
(7) MS. MEYERS: Krista [REDACTED]
(8) [REDACTED], Maryland 21033.
(9) DIRECT EXAMINATION
(10) BY MR. URICK:
(11) Q. Good afternoon, Ms. [REDACTED]
(12) A. Good afternoon.
(13) Q. Do you know the Defendant in this case?
(14) A. Yes.
(15) Q. How do you know him?
(16) A. A friend of mine.
(17) Q. And when did you first become friends?
(18) A. I've known him for four years -- since we were freshmen. We entered the
(19) (indiscernible) program at Woodlawn High School together, and I started talking to him
(20) more this year, I guess, and we became closer friends.
(21) Q. And since the time the charges have been brought against him, have you
(22) remained in contact with him?
(23) A. Yes, I have.
(24) Q. Did you know Hae Min Lee?
(25) A. Yes.
(26) Q. I want to draw your attention back to January 13th of this year, 1999. Do
(27) you remember that day?