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706 Pro-Med Lane, Suite 200A, Carmel, IN 46032(317) 564-8383 [service@veracityiir.com](mailto:service@veracityiir.com)Website: [www.veracityiir.com](http://www.veracityiir.com)

IN PI#: 21800012

### Case Review

**Investigator: J. Douglas Kouns****Date: 12/08/2021**

The writer was contracted by John Phillips of Phillips and Hunt to review materials related to: United States of America v. Maldonado-Passage, No. CR-18-227-SLP

#### Key findings:

In the writer's opinion and experience the following issues were found related to US Fish and Wildlife Agent Matthew Bryant's personal conduct throughout the investigation:

1. A PDF file titled "Jeff Johnson Text" dated 6/28/2017 was reviewed. The conversation appears to be a transcript of a text chat between Agent Bryant and Jeff Johnson. Texts from Bryant appear to be indicated by the letter "B;" those from Johnson appear to be indicated by the letter "J." The source of this information is not provided. Time and dates of the individual texts are not provided. I cannot tell from whose phone these texts originated. Referenced screenshots are not provided. It is presented in what appears as a transcription rather than an actual download from a phone. There is nothing certifying the integrity of the contents of this document.

In this document is an exchange where Jeff Johnson asks Agent Bryant for assistance in dealing with a local police problem. Johnson is being investigated by the Norman Police Department for stalking and harassing a political candidate, presumably Joe Maldonado.

**Bryant agrees to fix this problem and asks Johnson for the appropriate name and contact information of the local investigator. Later in the conversation, it appears Bryant was successful when Johnson texts, "it's gone." A federal Agent intervening in a confidential human source's (CHS) local police matters is inappropriate and would be a potential Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) violation.**

Further, in "fixing" Johnson's problem with the Norman Police, it can be assumed **Bryant disclosed Johnson's identity as a federal government CHS which is another potential OPR violation.**

Later in this conversation, Johnson asks Bryant if he is also working with "Paul," presumably Paul Malagerio. Bryant goes on to indicate he is with not-so-subtle inuendo. **Again, disclosing the identity of a CHS is a potential OPR violation.**





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Note: There is an appropriate process under the Department of Justice (DOJ) guidelines for opening and operating a CHS. There is also an approval process for a source to commit Otherwise Illegal Activity (OIA) in furtherance of an investigation when appropriate. This authority is granted by the US Attorney's Office. There is also an approval process to disclose the identity of a CHS when and where appropriate. It doesn't appear Agent Bryant was operating Johnson as an official CHS, had OIA approval nor authority to disclose identities. The only official source appears to be Garretson who is referred to as source symbol CPI-481 in reports. No other source symbols are noted throughout.

2. A PDF file titled "J Garretson texts with Agent Bryant" was reviewed. This appears to be a lengthy text conversation between Garretson and Bryant spanning many days. These texts appear to be screenshots or electronic extractions. Many appear to be edited, altered, or unprofessionally redacted. The text "balloons" are clearly misshapen possibly having been erased with a photo editing program. The conversations often don't make sense as if they were cut and pasted in the wrong order or as if much of the conversation has been removed. The time and dates are not always evident. **Communications such as these should be electronically extracted from the source by appropriately trained personnel to preserve the integrity for evidential purposes.**

In this conversation, **Bryant provides his personal cell phone number to Garretson.** While not against policy, this would open the door to compelling Bryant to turn over his phone for examination of relevant content to be turned over to the defense for discovery. **Although not prohibited, FBI Agents are advised it is unwise to converse with a CHS or other witnesses using a personal phone for this reason.**

3. A PDF file titled "2.13.2019 Jeff Lowe and Bryant" was reviewed. This is a transcript of a recording which starts mid-conversation. The conversation is Lowe speaking to Bryant about a problem he is having with a USDA investigation against him. Lowe explains the situation to Bryant; **Bryant begins with "You're not recording me are you?"** to which Lowe responds, "no," (but apparently was). Despite concerns about being recorded, Bryant then goes on to advise Lowe on how he should be polite, but un-cooperative with the USDA investigators. **Bryant is interfering with/obstructing another federal agency's investigation by counseling Lowe not to cooperate. This is a potential OPR violation.**

Later in this conversation, Bryant begins with **"and keep this to yourself,"** indicating he should not say what he's about to say. Bryant then explains to Lowe the prosecution's strategy of opposing the motion to sever the animal abuse counts from the murder for hire. Bryant goes on to explain the **prosecution wants to influence the jury by introducing pictures of the tiger dig which will prejudice the jury since they are weak on the murder for hire charge.** This appears to the writer as a **potential OPR violation by Bryant in**





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**disclosing. Also, it appears there are ethical issues with prosecutors intentionally attempting to influence/prejudice a jury.**

4. A PDF file titled "2.20.2019 call Garretson and Bryant" was reviewed. No audio was provided but appears to be a conversation between James Garretson and Bryant. At 7:34 minutes into the conversation, Bryant says, ***"Me commenting what I told you the other day about that plea, you never heard that."*** The conversation continues and Bryant advises ***"Yeah, because I'll get my ass in jam."*** Bryant has violated a court order about communications with witnesses during the trial. **This is a potential OPR violation or more.**
5. A PDF file titled "2.20.2019 call Garretson and Jeff Johnson" was reviewed. No audio was provided and appears to be a conversation between James Garretson and Jeff Johnson. In the conversation, Johnson advises Garretson he is on his way to the park to kill Jeff Lowe. **Garretson advises Johnson he supports the idea, but he should do it away from the park. Garretson advises Johnson, "get that dude when he's away from the park." Garretson is conspiring to commit murder with Jeff Johnson.**
6. A PDF file titled "2.21.2019 call Garretson and Bryant" was reviewed. No audio was provided and appears to be a conversation between Garretson and Bryant. Garretson somewhat explained the conversation he had with Johnson about killing Jeff Lowe. **Bryant counsels Garretson on how to cover himself by making an appearance of trying to report it to the Sheriff.** Bryant says, ***"that looks bad when you knew somebody was hunting to murder somebody down."*** Garretson expresses concern about being a co-conspirator in ***"whacking him."*** Bryant does not appear concerned one of his witnesses, has expressed a desire to kill another one of his witnesses, Lowe. Bryant and Garretson strategize on how to best spin the situation. It doesn't appear any of this was reported to any authorities; local, state, or federal. **This is a potential OPR violation or more.**

Further, Bryant realizes Johnson had also texted him on 2/21/19, in an apparent effort to set Lowe up to be killed. Johnson asks Bryant if he is willing to ask Lowe to meet Johnson in a public place. **Despite realizing Johnson attempted to use him to commit murder, Bryant does not appear to have reported this to anyone. This is a potential OPR violation or more.**

On, March 12-14, 2019, a recorded call between Bryant and Garretson indicates that because Johnson has turned on the government, pieces of the above will be taken out of context, twisted around, and used against Johnson to exclude him as a witness in the trial





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- for making threats against other witnesses. Once it behooves them, Garretson discloses he has a recording of Johnson's threats, but only alleged threats made about Johnson "beating his (Garretson's) ass." The part where Garretson conspired with Johnson to kill Jeff Lowe is omitted. Bryant advised Garretson he could not confirm if Garretson called the Sheriff's office to report the death threat. **They have intentionally misrepresented the situation to influence the decision to exclude Johnson as a witness. This is a potential OPR violation.**
7. A PDF file titled "2.26.2019 call Garretson and Bryant" was reviewed. No audio was provided and appears to be a conversation between Garretson and Bryant. Bryant is concerned about a social media post Garretson made about predicting Maldonado would "walk." Bryant goes on to put words in Garretson's mouth explaining **four times** about what he must have meant with the comment. Bryant later goes on to advise Garretson how they needed to "spin" things as far as the appearance of his cooperation. **While not necessarily a potential OPR matter, it is inappropriate to coach witnesses to this degree.**
8. A PDF file titled, "TEXT MESSAGES BETWEEN JEFF LOWE AND SA MATTHEW BRYANT GW EXOTICS INVESTIGATION – 2016202712" was reviewed. Texts from Bryant appear to be indicated by the letter "B;" those from Johnson appear to be indicated by the letter "L." No indication of the speaker is provided at all on some lines but can be assumed from context. The source of this information is not provided. Time and dates of the individual texts are not provided. It is unknown from whose phone these texts originated. It is presented in what appears as a transcription rather than an actual download from a phone. Referenced screenshots are not provided. There is nothing certifying the integrity of the contents of this document.

**Lowe advises Bryant he faked a text** to appear as if it were from Alan Glover to himself for the purposes of fooling Maldonado into making admissions. From the totality of the review, it brings into question if other and faked texts were produced. There is nothing to authenticate any of these conversations. **Bryant ultimately condones Lowe's plan to use the fake text. While lying to a subject isn't necessarily a violation, the integrity of all the text conversations provided by Lowe et. al. is further in question.**

Later, in what appears to be the same conversation, (there are no dates, times nor indication of whom is speaking), Lowe asks Bryant for help with his civil trial against Baskin. Bryant doesn't commit but agrees to think about it. There's nothing in the material the writer was provided indicating Bryant did or didn't help Lowe with his civil trial. **If Bryant did, it would be a potential OPR violation.**





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9. A PDF file titled, "USFWLS Reports 5" was reviewed. Within the document is a report identified as Report #2016202712R051. The report documents the excavation and recovery of six euthanized tigers pursuant to a consent to search signed by Jeff Lowe. The tigers are found and **only the heads of these tigers were cut from the carcasses and taken as evidence.** From this, investigators are able to determine the manner of death as a .410 shotgun shot to the heads. Maldonado has never denied euthanizing the animals but contends it was medically necessary. The heart of the issue is **not if, but why** he euthanized these tigers. Without the entire carcass, a determination cannot be made about the possibility the tigers were diseased or had physical issues necessitating euthanasia. **It seems investigators only wanted to show cause and manner of death without settling the important question of if it was an appropriate act.**

Further, as detailed above in Key Finding Three, the evidence of Maldonado euthanizing the tigers including pictures was presented to the jury for the specific purpose of creating prejudice and influencing their decision on the murder for hire case. Bryant is quoted speaking to Garretson, **"...we get some jurors' heartstrings bleeding on shooting those cats and showing pictures of the tiger dig and all that. And they might be prejudicial where we're weak on the murder for hire."** Therefore, investigators and prosecutors may have intentionally not taken the entire carcasses. If justification for the euthanasia had been found it would eliminate their ability to influence the jury on their admittedly "weak" murder for hire charges.

The writer and his business partner are both former members of an FBI Evidence Response Team (ERT). There is no logic in not taking the entire carcass in this situation. It is our opinion, based on training and experience, that instruction from a superior or AUSA would have to be given to only take the heads of these tigers.

#### General Observations:

1. As stated in many of the key findings above, there is documentation of text conversations that appear to be transcriptions rather than downloaded from media. Often, dates, times and even who is texting, is left off these communications. The integrity of these conversation as true and accurate accounts is questionable. **Communications such as these should be electronically extracted by appropriately trained personnel to preserve the integrity for evidential purposes.**
2. Some text conversations appear to be screenshots or electronic extractions. Many appear to be edited, altered, and/or unprofessionally redacted. The text "balloons" are clearly misshapen having been erased with a photo editing program. The conversations often don't make sense as if they were cut and pasted in the wrong order or as if much of the





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conversation has been removed. The time and dates are not always evident.

**Communications such as these should be electronically extracted from the source by appropriately trained personnel to preserve the integrity for evidential purposes.**

3. There appears to be no urgency in the investigation if it was believed Maldonado was seriously involved in a plot to kill Baskin. Allegedly, Maldonado had approached five to six people about killing her as reported by Jeff Lowe. What if there are other "hit men" investigators don't know about? Did they seek Title III wiretaps on anyone's phones? If not, why not? Was any surveillance conducted? Was Baskin afforded any kind of protection? It appears as if the investigators do not really consider this a serious threat based on their lack of utilizing sophisticated techniques.

If assigned to investigate this matter, I would have requested 24/7 surveillance coverage if I really believed someone was targeted for a hit. I would have sought Title III wiretaps on appropriate phones and facilities. Investigators use their CHSs to develop the probable cause required for approval to use wiretaps and collect evidence which isn't just provided by witnesses of questionable credibility. This type of electronic evidence can also be properly collected and preserved for evidentiary purposes. None of this appears to have been done.

4. Why didn't the FBI play a larger role in this investigation? Was it avoided by the FBI because of the issues surrounding it and investigative missteps by the USF&W Agent Bryant? Bryant appears to have committed multiple actions that would have potentially resulted in an OPR investigation for a federal agent.
5. It appears much of the information used in the investigation came from interviews of witnesses and CHS' who have very dubious credibility. There is no documentation the information collected was vetted. Information is often taken at face value by investigators. In review of the material in its entirety, there are multiple red flags indicating the witnesses are not being truthful, have their own agendas, and hold deep grudges against Maldonado.
6. Multiple recordings are made by Lowe and Garretson of phone calls and in-person conversations with others involved. Many of these recordings are incomplete, starting mid conversation and ending prior to conclusion. The recorded calls don't appear to have been supervised by an investigator. No steps were taken to ensure the integrity of the evidence.

There are systems and equipment available to investigators to help ensure the integrity of evidence. What was said prior to recording or after the recorded portion? Were portions intentionally left out? Were conversations staged? The FBI utilizes a service for recording







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phone calls. A call is made to the service, a code is entered and then the phone call is conducted. The entirety of the conversation is recorded off site and properly preserved.

The FBI uses special body recorders for in person conversations. These devices can only be turned on and off. The original recordings are then properly downloaded by a trained technician and preserved for evidence. It does not appear steps were taken to preserve the integrity of electronic evidence.

7. The credibility of the story provided by Allen Glover to investigators is suspect. There are multiple indicators of deception. Investigators do not adequately press Glover. Were any polygraphs done or anyone even asked? Many conflicting statements and discrepancies were found in other witness accounts.
8. Bryant appears to investigate with the goal of finding and fitting the facts to his foregone conclusion. Witnesses are believed at face value when it fits and accused of lying and discounted when it does not. Evidence is collected and used when it fits and ignored or discarded when it does not.
9. The CHS operations do not appear to be conducted within DOJ Guidelines. Were they all opened and admonished per the guidelines? Was any source validation attempted? Was "Otherwise Illegal Activity" (OIA) requested/granted where illegal activity occurred. Were the sources paid? What were their defined motivations as stated in their opening paperwork? A retired FBI Chief Division Counsel was consulted who advised the USF&W Agents should conform to the same guidelines since their cases are prosecuted by DOJ. See DOJ guidelines on CHS operations.
10. The FBI undercover (UC ) operation would have had to be proposed and approved at many levels. What was the articulated predication? All UC contacts should have a corresponding document/FD302. Only one encounter was found in the materials provided. Were any phone calls or other contacts made? It is unusual that only one attempt at contacting the subject by the UC was made.





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The following are more detailed notes, and observations of the review of the material with screenshots or cut and pastes supporting them:

### **Reviewed FBI FD-302, and video of John Finlay Interview 9/19/18.**

- Findlay frequently says he thought Maldonado was joking or otherwise not serious about killing Baskin.
- Discusses going to TX to get a fake ID for Glover.
- Went to visit James Garretson who filed off the part indicating it was not a valid ID.
- Talks about Allen being Jeff's employee.

### **Reviewed FBI FD-302, of Allen Glover Interview 7/13/2018.**

- Maldonado treated him badly.
- Glover hated Maldonado.
- Glover appears to be lying to the Agents in my opinion.
- Allen claims he "stayed at someone's house" in Florida partying on beach.
- Nothing he says about his travel is verifiable.
- Investigators don't seem to press him on this issue.
- Was he polygraphed or offered a polygraph?

### **Reviewed FBI FD-302, of Dr. JoAnn Green (veterinarian) 10/18/18**

- She is a veterinarian who would agree to sign off on things that weren't done/true.
- Admits to fraud and was concerned Maldonado would blackmail her.

### **Reviewed FBI FD-302 of Jeff Lowe interview 7/19/18.**

Over time, Maldonado became increasingly agitated with Baskin. He seemed to grow more "rattled" every time Baskin filed a motion in court. Maldonado made statements such as, "this fucking bitch gotta go." He also posted videos pertaining to Baskin, including one in which he blew up a mannequin using Tannerite and one in which he fed chunks of meat to some cats (the meat was to represent Baskin's husband who had disappeared). At that time, Lowe thought that Maldonado was "just venting."







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- Lowe also got increasingly agitated, didn't like Maldonado, believed he was being victimized by Maldonado. Thought Maldonado was just venting about Baskin. It benefits Lowe to get rid of Maldonado.

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Maldonado asked Garretson if he knew anyone who would kill Baskin. Maldonado believed that Garretson associated with some shady characters due to his involvement in operating strip clubs. Garretson indicated that he would find someone to carry out the plan. Lowe was present when this occurred but he believed Garretson was just "humoring" Maldonado. Lowe never heard Maldonado and Garretson discuss a price for the murder-for-hire.

- Garretson also has an agenda and exposure due to Maldonado. If investigators really believe Maldonado wants to kill Baskin, Garretson and Lowe were conspiring with him.

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Park in Oklahoma. Maldonado did not like Glover and often humiliated him at work. In response, Glover repeatedly pointed out that he worked for Lowe, not Maldonado.

- Maldonado and Glover hate each other; why would Maldonado trust him to do something like this?

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commit murder. Lowe told Maldonado that he had never seen Glover act violently and that Glover was "the dumbest person on Planet Earth."

- Maldonado was told by Lowe that Glover isn't violent but is stupid. Why would Maldonado then hire him to do this?

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want it coming down on me." Lowe told Garretson to call Baskin on the phone and tell her to "watch her back." The sole purpose of this request was for Garretson to warn Baskin about the murder-for-hire scheme. Garretson tried to call Baskin from the restaurant but did not reach her. Garretson later texted Lowe and indicated

- At what point did they call police? Never? SA Bryant approached them first.





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aware of the murder-for-hire scheme. Maldonado was so bold about his plan that people at the park did not believe it was real.

- Park people all hear him and don't believe he's serious.
- 

Paul Malagerio told Lowe that in approximately December 2015, Maldonado offered to pay him to kill Baskin. Malagerio did not

- No proof of this. Hearsay multiple times over. Malagerio later denies.
- 

park. This individual advised that sometime during 2017, Maldonado offered to pay him \$50,000.00 to kill Baskin. Lowe noted that this

- They are discussing Tim Mills of Yogis. Again there is no proof and Mills later denies. Lowe states Maldonado offered multiple people a deal to kill Baskin, but none can be verified. Lowe has agenda.
- 

him to check Lowe for warrants. Thompson said that his ex-wife advised Baskin that Maldonado had hired him to try to kill her (Baskin). Thompson told Lowe that approximately two years ago, Maldonado offered Thompson \$10,000.00 to \$15,000.00 to kill Baskin.

- Claims Maldonado tried to hire yet another person that could not be verified.
- 

Over time, Thompson grew to despise Maldonado.

- Thompson despises Maldonado.
  - Other:
    - Lowe complains about Maldonado's embezzlement, campaign finance fraud, etc...
    - It behooves Jeff to get rid of Maldonado by making up / embellishing stories.
    - Others didn't believe Maldonado was serious.
    - Supposedly, Maldonado approached Garretson, Glover, Malagerio, Mills, and Thompson all to kill Baskin.
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**Reviewed FBI FD-302 of Jackie Thompson interview, 10/11/18.**

free and that she wanted a baby monkey as compensation. Maldonado said he would provide Hansen with ten baby monkeys if she would take care of "this headache" (Baskin) for him. Thompson refused to participate in this scheme.

- Thompson claims Maldonado offered her ten baby monkeys to kill Baskin. It seems unlikely this was a serious proposal.
- 

Marc told Thompson that he did not intend to kill Baskin for Maldonado because Maldonado didn't have any money. However, Marc indicated that he would follow through with the plan if Maldonado came up with the money. Marc said Baskin would just be walking along and that her head would "explode" when he shot her.

- She claims Marc wouldn't do the hit only because Maldonado didn't have money but would have if he did?
- 

bodyguard/security guard for Maldonado. About three weeks after they moved to Oklahoma, Marc was caught on park surveillance video engaging in sexual activity with Melisha (Marc's current wife). As a result, Thompson and Marc split up. Maldonado forced Thompson to

- Marc is motivated to lie and seems to be an all-around untrustworthy person. Why would anyone believe him?
- 

Thompson threatened to contact authorities and report Maldonado's plan to have Baskin killed. Maldonado said he did not know what Thompson was talking about. In approximately July or

- Was Marc a CHS trying to get him to make a statement? Was Marc interviewed? If not, why not? UCE / CHS. Maldonado denies knowing what he's talking about.
- 





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## Reviewed FBI FD-302 documenting FBI UCE interaction with 12/8/17

SCHREIBVOGEL asked UCE-6361 where UCE-6361 was coming from and UCE-6361 responded, the Dallas, Texas area. SCHREIBVOGEL and UCE-6361 discussed payment. UCE-6361 advised UCE-6361 would require \$10,000 to kill BASKIN. UCE-6361 further explained \$5,000 would be paid up front, with the remaining \$5,000 paid upon completion of the murder. SCHREIBVOGEL agreed stating he believed he could have \$5,000 the following week.

- Was any of this done or was it all just talk? Were there follow up meetings? Recordings? Transcripts? What is the backstory. Who introduced the CHS? 10K seems low for a professional hit.

## Reviewed Glover Interview transcript with FBI SA Farabow and Bryant: 7/13/2018

Jeff Lowe (00:00:13):

He's nervous as hell.

Special Agent Andrew Farabow (00:09:59):

We're investigating Maldonado, and we've received information about this whole deal with Carole Baskin.

- Why are Jeff and Lauren Lowe there?

Allen Glover (00:10:23):

That's going to be a bitch. I can sum it up very fucking quick. That dude's a fucking asshole.

Allen Glover (00:10:35):

I hate the guy. I fucking hate the motherfucker.

I do. I hate that motherfucker. I've never hated a human being worse than him. Not that he was a faggot. That had nothing to do with it. But, he's just a real fucking prick.

Allen Glover (00:12:11):

But I've had a grudge against the guy, my personal reasons, about that. Come to be, I don't know, several months back. I've heard him talk about that lady, Carole Baskin, many a times. Like in our meetings in the morning and shit like that. He'd be so fucking scatterbrained.





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- **Glover has extreme prejudice against Maldonado. Do investigators ever consider people may be lying and have an agenda? It seems they've made up their minds early on and are making the pieces fit their pre-determined conclusion.**
- 

Allen Glover (00:15:45):

Shit, bud. No, hell of a lot more than that. Way worth more than that. But I had no fucking intentions of doing nothing, but getting off this fucking property. I saw three grand? "Bye, Maldonado. Fuck the park."

Allen Glover (00:18:30):

My intentions were strictly to fuck him over, not ever come back here. I come so close to calling that fucking lady and tell her what the fuck was going on, but I don't know. I didn't.

- **This seems implausible.**
- 

Allen Glover (00:19:38):

Because he didn't want Jeff knowing what the fuck I was doing. So that kind of got me out of Jeff being pissed off. Because I fucked Jeff over this topic the fuck off too. As I look at it. So, and coming back here and have to look at that man's fucking face? That makes my gut hurt.

Allen Glover (00:22:26):

Oh, yeah. He had a fucking rifle he was going to send me with. But that'll put me in prison. I am a felon. That would put me in fucking prison forever. Or a knife. I can't even took a fucking knife. Or a bow and arrow. What the fuck?

- **Glover is ok with committing murder, but he's worried about being a felon in possession. This makes no sense. It makes more sense that he was never serious about it.**
- 

Allen Glover (00:24:12):

Seeing my family, man.

Allen Glover (00:24:29):

I stayed with a good friend of mine.

Matthew Bryant (00:29:28):

So, those types of facts and that type of stuff, when we're asking you questions, I won't... I understand that you might forget things a little bit-

Matthew Bryant (00:32:02):

James scratched the stuff off on the back here at the park.

Special Agent Andrew Farabow (00:37:01):

Did you end up going down to Florida?

Allen Glover (00:37:04):





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I don't know. I went? No.

Special Agent Andrew Farabow (00:37:05):

Did you go down there or not? Because we'll be able to find out.

Allen Glover (00:37:11):

I went down there to tell that lady.

Allen Glover (00:38:50):

Like I said, I went to public beach and whatnot like that, the party, the people. Went to their house, park and party, and was only down there for a couple of days.

- They didn't press very hard here. He's clearly lying, and they don't go after him. If they catch him lying about this, it doesn't support their foregone conclusion.

## Reviewed: J Garretson texts w/ Agent Bryant.

Sep 24, 2017, 10:41 AM

... having a good weekend  
bud? I'll be working on reports  
and watching football all day  
tomorrow ... not a good football  
day today for me

Tue, Nov 7, 12:03 PM

... you already said

... I thought they were just  
bringing money, makes sense  
though

- The above are provided as examples. Many texts appear altered, edited, or unprofessionally redacted. What was the source of these texts and who made the edits? I can't always tell with whom he is speaking nor when. These altered conversations often don't seem contiguous nor make sense. Many seem cut an pasted out of order. I have no confidence in the integrity of these conversation and would like to see the originals. What was left out? A phone dump using a celebrite or equivalent should be used to preserve the integrity of the content.







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IN PI#: 21800012

Thu, Nov 9, 1:18 PM

For your records and to put in your phone. My personal phone number is 405-513-2424

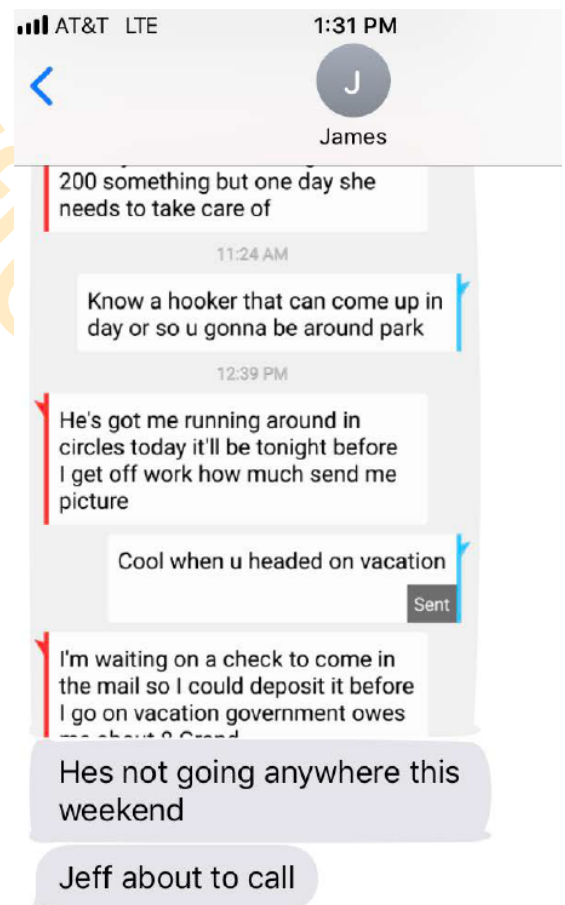
- Agent Bryant is giving his personal number to his CHS (Garretson). The phone number was confirmed as belonging to: Matthew Medry Bryant's. What conversations and texts were held on this phone? This opens the door to subpoena the contents of Bryant's personal cell. Anything he wouldn't want a defense attorney to see would likely take place on this phone. FBI Agents are not prohibited but warned not to mix personal conversations with business conversations as they may become discoverable.

- This appears edited/alterd and to be a screenshot provided by Garretson to Bryant of Glover talking to Garretson. It's done on a different phone based on text format. What is the source? Is Glover saying he's going on vacation? Waiting on a check from the government? Is this an explanation of Glover's disappearance. Did he go on vacation with money received from the government as opposed to going to FL with \$3000 of Maldonado's money? Did anyone investigate?

Hes doing parties he called hour ago said he has not forgot

Ag is at park

- AG= Glover





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Sun, Nov 12, 4:14 PM

Heard from Glover? Or Eric?

Hes at park

Glover asked if i was bringing  
hooker today

- The middle text bubble shape is altered. What was edited out?

Mon, Nov 13, 9:37 AM

Suppose to be a big production  
when hes fired

Wed, Nov 15, 3:14 PM

Ag quiet?

Trying to drag shit outta him  
been talking back n forth ill  
send

Wed, Nov 15, 5:59 PM

your photographs of your tigers  
on Joes Facebook?

- Nonsensical conversation indicates it's been edited/alttered.





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- What's very important? Where is the rest of this?

Hes there

Crying about girls

(Missing green text bubble?!)

Glover flew outta okc to s carolina saturday night to go home i was just told by aaron Guess he used his ssi to get home because of no pay from joe ..gonna head out there shortly get full scoop

- Glover flew to OKC using SSI because of no pay from Maldonado. This text appears to be altered and edited. Is this the trip/disappearance they were trying to claim was Glover going to FL to kill Baskin? This is the correct time frame. This supports the above note Glover used SSI money to go visit family in South Carolina as opposed to using Maldonado's money to go to Florida to kill Baskin. It also indicates the statements given to investigators were lies (that is, Maldonado selling a cub for \$3,000).





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IN PI#: 21800012

Mon, Apr 30, 9:52 AM

By tomm im good new meds  
and all lets take one more run  
at asshole

And u paid for it all man that pisses me off  
we all get fucked by him

Queer

You have no idea. I have a stack of papers  
that will get him locked up in a Federal  
prison. I just have to time it right

- What is this about? Who is he texting with? Homophobic and vengeful.

Mon, Apr 30, 1:16 PM

... maybe he should come  
over to team USA

- What was edited about "maybe he should come over to team USA?" Are they discussing Glover?

Tue, May 8, 1:57 PM

You headed to zoo?

Soon joe was throwing out his  
husband when i called waiting  
on call back

- This conversation makes no sense. Appears to have been cut and pasted in the wrong order.





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IN PI#: 21800012

Fri, May 18, 5:49 PM

Meet joe?

Not yet suckin up to jeff  
suppose to meet him pretty  
soon pauls got em going nuts

Anythin from sherrif

We are working on it. Waiting  
on a call

Jeff and I are chatting now.  
He will call me back soon

Verified Paul is illegal

- Disjointed/edited/alterd conversation. They are now targeting Paul for some reason. What are they working on with the Sheriff? Did anyone interview the Sheriff?

Tue, Jun 12, 10:32 AM

Afraid I'm losing Jeff to the  
dark side ... not wanting to  
cooperate anymore without  
agreement from US attorney

Text Message



MALD-PAGS\_006430

10:58 PM



James



agreement from US attorney





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- This appears to be Bryant complaining about losing Jeff.

Tue, Jun 26, 8:52 AM

Call me when you get going  
this morning

We gotta get Joe now were  
being associated with Joe and  
cronies ..Jeff Johnson  
spreading drama

For sure. He is a loose cannon

- "We gotta get Joe now." Bryant and Garretson are turning on Lowe.

Wed, Jun 27, 12:20 PM

Anything from, Jeff heading out  
there







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IN PI#: 21800012

Thu, Aug 9, 3:43 PM

## Indict jeff too big mouthed

JMG what an idiot. You all need to go look at Joe's page quick before he removes this post. He is actually trying to call me out for, I guess living the life that every man dreams of. I'm sure you all know that Joe is in deep deep trouble. So now, just as he always does, he's going to try to blame it on someone else, ME.

If I hadn't come along a few years ago, all these animals would have been dead today. Joe embezzled \$88,000 from me in the 11 months I was in Las Vegas. He forged my name on \$28,000 in CASH checks. But the worst thing he did, was call my wife a fucking redheaded cunt. The second worst thing he did was take a 410 shotgun out back and slaughtered beautiful loving tigers that trusted him. We have the witnesses that saw him do it and we have the bodies dug up from the back pasture.

The dumbest thing he did, well..... that's for the Federal Government to tell you about at the end of the month

Keep talking Joe, I'll post the videos that I found of you John and mandingo. I think all your fans would love to see the pretty outfits that John is wearing, and they would love the stuffed animal collection with the holes cut in the asses. You guys are truly sick fucks.



Thu, Aug 9, 9:46 PM

Just for the record. In the event that Joe and his band of merry men keep fucking with me. I will post the entire content of the thumbdrive on Twitter under the name @exoticjoe

- Screen shot of Jeff ranting about Maldonado. Jeff makes a threat.





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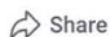
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If Facebook puts me back in FB jail for anything, I will move this info to that Twitter account. Joe is a fucking idiot to post anything about my sex life. I guess the hillbilly didn't know that I have been setting his ass up for almost a year, I'm loaded with knowledge, try me Joe.

I will post every stinking video, sound and all.



- "I have been setting his ass up for almost a year." A clear admission.

Thursday 4:09 PM

Anything on paul hes creating a world of drama

Yeah James from Ringling Animal Care Center is the one that set Joe up with Paul egging him on so there you go that's your people that took Joe down

This came from a girl that worked at Ringling and she would call me and let me know stuff and then she ended up leaving and then went and changed her police statement when she left so yeah see how evil

- "Paul egging him on so there you go that's your people that took Joe down." Who is the girl? Went to police and changed statement.





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## Reviewed Jeff Johnson Texts.

- **Note - B is apparently Bryant and J is Johnson. These appear to be transcripts of a text chat as opposed to a downloaded text chat. The integrity of these conversations is questionable. When were these conversations? No dates/times are provided. What is the source? From whose phone?**

B - Really enjoyed meeting you and your family. Thank you for the email and keep on digging, just don't give up our investigation. Careful who you trust!

- **Was Johnson an official source?**

J - Pleasure to meet you as well. That was the first thing I ran across and I won't stop! I trust no one anymore!

J - I'm being investigated by the Norman police department for stalking and harassing a political candidate due to my Facebook page being reported to the city of Norman by Joe. Can you help me?

- **Johnson asks for help getting out of a local police problem.**

B - Yes. Don't say anything about Our case but give me the name and number of the investigator and let me contact him in person and explain

- **Bryant agrees to fix a local police problem for his informant. The answer should be no. If Johnson is committing illegal acts on behalf of the government, he should be opened as a source and first be granted approval for Otherwise Illegal Activity (OIA). This would be a potential Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) investigation for an FBI Agent.**

B - I will talk to them Monday when back in OK

J - Call 405-366-5235 ask for Capt. Ricky Jackson. He will be able to help you. Thank you so much.

- **Appears Bryant did try to "fix" this. This is against DOJ policy. Did anyone speak to Ricky Jackson? What was going on and what was the outcome?**

J - It's gone! Just answer one question for me? Are you working closely with Paul?





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B - Lol ...



J - Umm...is that a no?

B- No bud ... I can't say but you can read between the lines. A lot of cooperation between numerous confidential witnesses. If anything got out it would hurt the case and possibly people as you well know

**He first says he can't confirm if he's working with Paul, but then very clearly confirms he is with this not-so-subtle comment. Burning a source is another potential OPR matter. Where are all the attachments referenced in this chat?**

### **Review of Lauren Lowe Texts with Bryant**

- Nothing of much interest. However, in later conversations, she is unable to provide proof of the allegations she and Jeff made during an earlier interview with Bryant about having proof that Maldonado committed illegal acts.

### **Review of transcript of audio recording on 2/4/2019 with Jeff Lowe, Lauren Lowe and Bryant**

- The transcript starts mid conversation. What is the source? Is the full audio available? Taking selected pieces out of context puts the integrity of the information in doubt.

Jeff Lowe (03:40):

... The night that I fired him. Because Bruce lives in Katrina's house, Katrina is the one who worked for me. And she moved into the mother-in-law suite, and Bruce and his wife rent their house. So as soon as he was fired, I told Katrina, I says, "You know, if this causes you any grief, any problems, just let me know, and I'll help you pay your rent or whatever you need." And she says, "Well," she goes, "Finley was there last night." And I said, "Well, I'm not surprised at all." I said, "He's denied that he had any contact with Finley all along, and I knew better." And I don't care, I don't tell people who they can and can't associate with. But according to Katrina, Marsha told her that she's going to tell you, and everyone else, that she's got amnesia, and can't remember anything about what she told you-

Lauren Lowe (04:29):

And that she's the key witness to this case.





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- **Who are Bruce and Katrina? Neither name has been mentioned in any other document reviewed. This was an odd conversation.**

### **Review of: 2.6.2019 call Jeff Lowe and Bryant**

- **Again, it starts mid conversation**

Matt Bryant (01:18):

Yeah. No, that ain't it. Because they'd let me know if they were going to talk to you.

Jeff Lowe (01:22):

Okay. All right. It just seems weird. It just is weird because we walked right out there yesterday and we were raking and it wasn't there and now it's there this morning.

- **Matt seems to be worried; concerned that he's out of the loop. "they'd let me know, but they didn't" He's protective of Jeff Lowe. It seems other law enforcement was at the park looking for someone about something and Bryant doesn't know anything about it. Why does this worry him?**

### **Review of: 2.13.2019 Jeff Lowe and Bryant:**

- **Starts Mid-conversation**

Jeff Lowe (10:10):

I said, "I'm not comfortable signing a sworn statement. If you guys want to pursue me in a courtroom, we'll do depositions and then my statement will be under oath." And I told him. I said, "I won't lay down for this." I said, "Lauren's entitled to a license. She's more qualified than most people holding licenses."

Matthew Bryant (10:36):

Sure. I don't think you have anything ... And you're not recording me, are you?

Jeff Lowe (10:46):

No.

Matthew Bryant (10:47):

Yeah. I think, **between us**, I think it's a fishing trip. I think that somebody's got their panties in a wad for you out there in Vegas. And they're just fishing. If you want my opinion ... You haven't asked, but if you want, I'll share it with you.

Jeff Lowe (11:08):

I want it. I value your judgment.

Matthew Bryant (11:12):

[crosstalk 00:11:12] ... **to do this deal here is not to give them a sworn statement.** I think you're right on that. But to be hat in hand and non-threatening, and very cooperative **without doing the affidavit** to the





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point to be like, "Hey Bob, I can set up an appointment. We can go up there and **talk to my attorney**. We can do this and [inaudible 00:11:33]. And she thinks the affidavit is not going to put me in jeopardy, so we can do that. I got no problem doing the affidavit. I want USDA to know that I'm going to cooperate fully. And I've admit where I've been wrong on some minor instances. [inaudible 00:11:45] But a lot of this stuff, that's being alleged to stuff that just caught me out of left field. So, naturally I want to be defensive. But I want to be defensive with caution, to let USDA know that I want to be very cooperative also."

Matthew Bryant (12:53):

**But take my advice, if you will.** Even when it's aggravating, be like, "Okay, I'm not going to roll over and play dead, but I'm going to be very nice and very cooperative through the process."

- **This is a very inappropriate conversation. Agent Bryant is giving legal advice to CHS on related issues involving another federal agency's investigation. He should deconflict with the other agency, not his CHS. This would be a potential OPR matter for an FBI Agent. Saying, "between us," meaning he wouldn't want it known to anyone else. He's interfering in the other investigation by advising Lowe to politely not cooperate.**

Matthew Bryant (19:21):

Yeah. It's still going. The motion to sever ... **And keep all this to yourself**, obviously [crosstalk 00:19:29]

Jeff Lowe (19:29):

Yeah, what is sever? What does sever mean?

Matthew Bryant (19:31):

The defense filed a motion to separate the case to a wildlife case, and a murder-for-hire case in two different trials.

Jeff Lowe (19:40):

Oh.

Matthew Bryant (19:42):

That was denied. Jeff Lowe (19:45):

Good.

Matthew Bryant (19:45):

So it'll all be one trial.

Jeff Lowe (19:47):

Oh, good.

Matthew Bryant (19:47):

**And I don't know. I think what they were thinking is that we get some jurors' heartstrings bleeding on shooting those cats and showing pictures of the tiger dig and all that. And they might be prejudicial where we're weak on the murder for hire.**

Jeff Lowe (20:04):

Right. Don't forget, I have a bunch of pictures and video from that day. I know you guys took some, but if you need more, you can have mine.







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- This is another very inappropriate conversation and begins with “keep this to yourself.” I don’t believe he is allowed to disclose this type of information. He goes on to explain the prosecution’s tactic of influencing the jury on the weak murder for hire charge by introducing prejudicial information and pictures of tigers Maldonado euthanized “get some jurors’ heartstrings bleeding.” (more on this later)

Matthew Bryant (26:42):

I think we have a strong case. We got some holes in some stuff and we'll have to see how much they try to exploit it, but-

Jeff Lowe (26:47):

What do you think your holes are, though? You got him-

Matthew Bryant (26:52):

Glover.

Jeff Lowe (26:55):

Yeah, he is a fucktard.

- He knows there are holes in the case. You should fill those holes and not just hope they aren’t exploited. Glover, the only person who supposedly has any firsthand information about being hired as the hitman is the hole. It appears Bryant knows Glover’s story is bogus.

Matthew Bryant (27:54):

Engesser spilled his guts and told me about cub sales and money and wire transfers that I knew nothing about. And he said that day was not me.

- Engesser was interviewed (see FD-302 review) and told Bryant he did not purchase a cub for \$3000 from Maldonado during that time frame. This was allegedly the \$3000 Jeff said Maldonado paid to Glover for the hit on Baskin. I don’t think Maldonado ever paid Glover anything. I think Glover’s travel money was his SSI check described above in Garretson’s text chat with Bryant. Did investigators or attorneys ever confront anyone on any of this?

## Review of: 2.18.2019 call Garretson and Bryant

- This conversation starts at beginning.

Matthew Bryant (00:14):

Hey, I was just going to double check. Hey, I know you and I are good friends. We've been through a lot together. I just want to ask you this question. There was a weird sound in your tone. You weren't recording my conversation were you?

James Garretson (00:27):

No!





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- **Bryant probably knows he was being recorded and most likely he has issues now. They only reason one would care about being recorded is if they were acting improperly/unethically.**

### **Review of: 2.20.2019 call Garretson and Bryant**

Matthew Bryant (07:34):

Me commenting what I told you the other day about that plea, **you never heard that.**

- **Bryant knows he acted improperly/unethically about something. It appears Bryant violated a court order regarding contact with witnesses and he is now worried. Another OPR matter.**

James Garretson (07:37): I never heard that. I just-

Matthew Bryant (07:38):

Yeah, because I'll get my ass in jam.

- **Again admitting he did something improper that would get him disciplined and/or affect the proceedings.**

### **Review of: 2.20.2019 call Garretson and Jeff Johnson**

Jeff Johnson (00:06):

I'm on my way to kill Jeff Lowe.

James Garretson (00:38):

I'm your friend, dude. Just tell me. What did he do?

Jeff Johnson (00:40):

You're not my friend. You're not my friend.

James Garretson (01:05):

I am a tough guy, but man, you're walking into an ambush, man.

Jeff Johnson (01:09):

No, bullshit. [crosstalk 00:01:09] Bullshit, [inaudible 00:01:09].

**James Garretson (01:09):**

**Get that dude when he's away from that park.**

James Garretson (01:16):

You know I'm with you, if he's away from the park.

Jeff Johnson (04:40):

I've had enough of Matt. I've had enough of Paul. Paul calls you a piece of shit. You call Paul a piece of shit. I've had enough of the lying bullshit. Here's what's going to happen tonight. I'm going to go camp out. I'm going to hide out, and I'm going to find that motherfucker, and I'm going to empty my fucking Glock in his dick.

James Garretson (06:22):

I'm not stopping you, dude, and **I'm not calling the law.** I'm just trying to be your friend here, dude, and





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you're turning on me a little bit. Okay? I'm your friend. Call me an asshole. Say I'm not or whatever, but...

- **Garretson conspired to commit murder. Advises him to do it away from the park and he's not calling the law.**

### **Review of: 2.21.2019 call Garretson and Bryant**

- **Garretson calls Bryant about his conversation with Johnson the previous day... He should have called 911 first and Bryant next.**

James Garretson (00:07):

Hey, heads up, I had tried to call Sheriff Rhodes a couple of times, left him a message and so on.

Matthew Bryant (00:13):

Did you leave him a message?

James Garretson (00:15):

Yes I did.

Matthew Bryant (00:16):

Okay.

James Garretson (00:17):

So, [crosstalk 00:00:17]. The what?

Matthew Bryant (00:21):

That covers you in reporting a potentially dangerous threat.

- **There is no documentation to prove Garretson tried to call, or if he did, called the non-emergency line late knowing the Sheriff would not be in. He should have called 911 when Johnson stated he was on his way to kill Lowe. Bryant should've brought this to superior's attention once he found out. All he cares about is appearances and "covering" not the fact Johnson was on his way to kill Jeff Lowe and his CHS failed to report it. Another OPR matter.**

Matthew Bryant (01:20):

Yeah. I think if you just have it where you called, contacted a law enforcement agency, and all they say, "You go back to this case, and when Joe asked you to find somebody to hire for \$10,000." That looks bad that you never did anything, and you can say, "Well, I didn't know if he was serious or not." but that looks bad when you knew somebody was hunting to murder somebody down.

- **All Bryant seems to care about is appearances. Johnson is an imminent threat to Jeff Lowe's life. Bryant says "it looks bad" when you knew and didn't call anyone. It also looks and is bad Bryant didn't address it properly nor adequately either. Did Bryant do anything about this? Was Lowe warned? Was any law enforcement contacted? How did this play out?**





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James Garretson (01:45):

Yeah, no, I got you.

Matthew Bryant (01:46):

So now you can say, whether you believe it or not, you can say "Somebody made a threat about hurting somebody, harming somebody, going to kill them. I made contact with local law enforcement, and let them handle it how they see fit."

James Garretson (01:59):

Yeah, yeah, yeah. And I thought about that last night, is calling somebody, but I didn't want to call, and then had the cops call Jeff, and then the next thing I have is, I have a hate page against me, because I reported it. And you know he will.

- Garretson and Bryant are only concerned for themselves and appearances. He's protecting his CHS and case.

James Garretson (06:24):

Okay. But yeah, when Rhodes calls you back, I'll tell him what's going on with all that stuff. I don't want to be a co-conspirator in him whacking [Lowe 00:06:38]. He was butt-hurt. I was half-asleep, but he was on and crying about something Lowe said about him, or whatever.

- Garretson is already a co-conspirator. He advised Johnson to kill him off the property.

Matthew Bryant (06:45):

I've got to share what he said, let's see if I can pull my text up.

James Garretson (06:55):

The what?

Matthew Bryant (06:57):

Pulling my text stuff. This is what he texted me at 9:30. Would you be willing to ask Lowe to meet me in a public place right now?

James Garretson (07:04):

A federal officer.

Matthew Bryant (07:10):

Well, it's good to hear from you, but it is 9:30 at night, so let's chat tomorrow. Let some time pass. We can discuss your [inaudible 00:07:21] tomorrow.

James Garretson (07:22):

A federal law enforcement officer, God. What is wrong with these people? And all that online bashing does nothing for nobody, it really doesn't.

- The texts indicate Bryant is saying Jeff Johnson asked him to set up Jeff Lowe so he could murder him. Bryant may not have realized that at the time of the conversation, but he does now. He still doesn't to appear to have reported this to anyone.





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## Review of: 2.26.2019 call Garretson and Bryant

Agent Matt Bryant (02:32):

Yeah. The other thing that I have to ask you, and you have to think about why you said it. There's a Facebook post from December, I think it was 27th of last year. December of last year, Joe is making a post or you make a post somewhere and you say that... Joe is making a post talking about everything and you reply back or something that says, "I predict Joe will walk." And I don't know why you said that. I think you might have said it because you were frustrated that the defense...

James Garretson (03:12):

Yeah. I don't even recall making it actually.

Agent Matt Bryant (03:17):

All right. Well, if you did, I think it makes most sense, you can tell me why of course, but I theorize that you made that because you were frustrated with the process when the defense filed motion to keep continuing it.

Agent Matt Bryant (03:44):

Yeah. What makes sense to me is that you probably frustrated that it got continued and stretched on into March and you would think that eventually it would get wiped away.

James Garretson (03:58):

Yeah. I'm trying to think. The 29th of December?

Agent Matt Bryant (04:19):

Yeah. You made a statement and they might ask you about it. You said, "I predict yo will walk," and you had to have been frustrated.

- Bryant is coaching Garretson on his testimony, putting words in his mouth. Repeatedly, 4 times, telling him why he said/did something.

Agent Matt Bryant (07:33):

Yeah. But remember when it comes out, you're going to be the guy that the Feds caught and put in a corner and you either had to tell the truth to go to jail. That's the way it needs to be spun. You're no rat.

James Garretson (07:50):

Yeah. I gotcha.

Agent Matt Bryant (07:52):

And it will come out that way.

- Bryant is talking about how something needs to be "spun." This "spin" is contradictory to everything else I've reviewed. Bryant wants to put an inaccurate "spin" on the matter.

## Review of: 3.12.2019 call Garretson and Bryant

Matthew Bryant (00:23):

Nothing. Well, he threw me under the bus just as hard, didn't he?





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James Garretson (00:29):

You wouldn't even know the first of it, man. He's ruined my relationship. Me and Brittany split up.

- **Jeff Johnson threw Bryant and Garretson under the bus.**

James Garretson (00:38):

Yeah. She showed me text today that he's been texting her and what Jen Garrett's been telling her, things that aren't even fucking true. I mean, I work all day. I don't have time to fucking cheat on her and all this other stuff. Saying all this shit. Jeff Johnson's been texting her, all this shit, telling her all this shit. I'm livid, man. I don't even know what I'm going to do when I go to court, man. I'm telling you **I'm at to the point where I just want to go there, plead the Fifth, and go home.** I mean I'm to that point, Matt. I mean, because it's wrecked my whole life.

Matthew Bryant (01:12):

Yeah. I get it, dude. But then Jeff Johnson wins.

- **Garretson is turning on the government.**

James Garretson (01:16):

But **we've done nothing other than put Joe away.** Now, Jeff Johnson's talking to Joe. I didn't know that. I can't try to keep him at bay. And now he's in bed with Joe.

- **We put Maldonado away.**

Matthew Bryant (02:32):

I mean he says that I talked to you because I knew you had sold a lemur and held a lemur over your head. I would've never known about the lemur unless you had told me.

Matthew Bryant (02:52):

**I mean, it's so stupid. I mean, we got to beat Jeff Johnson. We got to beat the little twerps that sit there behind their keyboard at night and drink because they don't have a life.**

- **"Got to beat Jeff Johnson." They want to eliminate the threat of a witness who is contradictory to their narrative.**

Matthew Bryant (10:27):

Dude, just **you and I have developed a friendship and I think it's the real deal.**

James Garretson (10:34):

Yeah, and I'm good and I'm a hundred percent for you. I would never throw you under the bus. I would never. I mean, I'm just not that person, but...

- **Bryant is too close to a dangerous CHS. He doesn't think their friendship is the real deal, he's just worried about being turned on at this point.**







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## Review of: 3.13.2019 (2) call Garretson and Bryant

James Garretson (00:10):

Yes, I just looked back, the date, because I turned that call app off, that recording app off but I didn't turn it off til like the 25th. I have it recorded where he says he's going to kill Jeff Lowe.

Matthew Bryant (00:24):

Really?

- **Garretson knew he had the recording all along. Now he's going to play this card because Jeff Johnson has turned on them and they need to "beat Jeff Johnson" as indicated above.**

Matthew Bryant (00:47):

All righty. Two can play at his game.

- **This is very unprofessional. Bryant should have reported this incident in the first place when it happened. Now he is going to report it only because it helps them eliminate an adversarial witness.**

## Review of: 3.13.2019 call Garretson and Bryant

Agent Matt Bryant (00:03):

I was just talking to Sheriff Rhoads **on another matter** unrelated and I asked him, I said, "Did you ever get a call from James Gerretson regarding a threat towards Jeff Lowe? He says, "I do not." He said, "Did he call the SO?" [crosstalk 00:00:18].

- **Bryant called Rhoads for that very purpose and "another matter" is pretext. There's no evidence Garretson ever called. Was Rhoads interviewed by anyone other than Bryant? At best then, Garretson may have called the Sheriff to create a phone record of a call but didn't really leave a message.**

## Review of: 3.18.2019 call Garretson and Bryant

Matthew Bryant (00:20):

Hey, just to double-check, she wants me to send her an email. We're going to try to **battle Jeff Johnson** before he gets to the defense attorney or prepare for that. Can you remember what he said to you Friday?

James Garretson (00:39):

Yeah.

Matthew Bryant (00:39):

I know you said that he's going to beat your ass when you came?

James Garretson (00:43):

Yeah.





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Matthew Bryant (00:44):

Can you remember kind of how that went down? Because he can't say that about a Federal witness.

James Garretson (00:51):

I have to play it. When I get stopped, I can play it.

- **"She" must be an AUSA. They're fending off an unfavorable witness using a guise that Johnson threatened to "beat his ass." Did they ever play the whole recording for anyone? It seems they often bits and pieces of information out of context, omit any appearances of their own wrongdoing, and use it for their own purposes. There is a lack of integrity in reporting.**

Matthew Bryant (00:53):

Alrighty. Did he say anything about recordings that he had on me or anything or was he just bitching about the

- **Bryant is concerned Jeff Johnson has a recording of him. Even if not, Bryant is worried something he wouldn't want recorded and made public.**

Matthew Bryant (01:04):

Just what I'd said about Finlay and holding that over his head?

Matthew Bryant (01:20):

Yeah. Cool. Well, if he's going to threaten a witness, and somebody that he knows is a witness, and my understanding was that you explained to me it was like, "And if you go up there and testify against Joe, I'm going to be up there every day and I'm going to beat your ass," or something like that?

James Garretson (01:41):

Yeah. Something like that. I have to play it because he was just yelling nonstop. But he said that he was going to beat my ass and that I'm not telling him everything and that everybody's lying to him. You know, just freaking like a little raving lunatic.

Matthew Bryant (02:01):

If you listen to that, make a couple of little notes so I can be as precise as possible.

- **Bryant and Garretson again discuss how to fend off Johnson. Was there a recording of him threatening to beat Garretson? Garretson records everything. Are they discussing the conversation where Johnson is on his way to kill Lowe? If so, Bryant clearly didn't take it seriously then, but they're going to act like it was serious now, to prevent him from testifying.**

Matthew Bryant (04:54):

One other question. And this is just to help me in my memory. Back when I was getting recordings from you, when you would do the recordings and put them on your phone, and we would meet, and I would get them, how would I get the recordings? Did I give you a thumb drive?

James Garretson (05:10):

No.





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Matthew Bryant (05:10):

Did you just download them on-

James Garretson (05:13):

No, you would plug them into your laptop.

Matthew Bryant (05:17):

Plug your phone into my laptop?

James Garretson (05:18):

No. You would take the little wheel out of the recorder, or whatever, and then you would plug it into your laptop and download it right then.

- **This isn't proper handling of electronic evidence. This is ELSUR material and should be treated as such. The integrity is suspect.**

Matthew Bryant (05:28):

That's how we did it off the recorder, but the ones that were on your phone?

James Garretson (05:32):

Oh, I emailed them to you.

Matthew Bryant (05:34):

You emailed them all?

- **This is incorrect procedure. The FBI uses a program for consensually monitored phone calls for proper preservation of evidence. You call the service, enter a code, get a tone, then make your call. The call is saved in its entirety and can't be edited.**

### Review of: 3.23.2019 call Garretson and Jeff Johnson

Jeff Johnson (00:31):

I don't know. I'll tell you one thing. They're not happy with Matt.

James Garretson (00:36):

Really?

Who was it, the attorney's not happy with Matt?

Jeff Johnson (00:48):

Uh-uh (negative). Not even a little bit.

James Garretson (00:52):

Like why, what did they say?

Jeff Johnson (00:53):

Because of what I told them, which was-

Jeff Johnson (01:08):

[silence 00:01:08] Change of heart, basically. And what I knew about how the trial or how the investigation was handled, and that I think that it was nothing more than a witch hunt. And that a lot of the information they got was basically people were bargained with. That there was a whole lot of people that ought to be in jail right next to him. I told him, I told the defenders about Jeff Lowe putting the price





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on my head, Jeff Lowe asking for pictures of my daughter, all that. And they were just shocked.

- **Yet they silenced Johnson and didn't call him as a witness. Johnson has figured out this is an embellished, fabricate, manipulated, farce.**

### **Review of: 3.23.2019 call Garretson and Paul Malagerio**

James Garretson (00:31):

You know who fucking called in the middle of our fucking, my trial prep?

Paul Malagerio (00:36):

Jeff Johnson.

James Garretson (00:37):

Yes. He was on the speaker phone with all the US attorneys, the FBI, and everybody in there.

Paul Malagerio (00:43):

And what did he say?

James Garretson (00:50):

Dude... It was ringing, and I showed Amanda, the head US attorney. I showed her. I said, "Should I answer? Or should I not?" So I answered it, click. And then they were giving little Post-it notes, and sending them to me, and asking me what questions to ask.

Paul Malagerio (03:53):

Okay. See, that makes a lot of sense. Well, Doc Green should have been arrested, and -the bullshit. And then she'll be testifying at her own trial about Joe. I mean, they [crosstalk 00:04:10]-

- **Was this documented? Wasn't there an order not to discuss the matter with witnesses at this point? The AUSA is coaching him on what to ask or communicating by proxy.**

James Garretson (05:06):

There's something going on, man, because they were real... Like again, they never mention his name other than, "Well, Jeff Lowe states that he only met you at Applebee's for you to call Carole and warn her to stay off the bike path." The only person that told me that, "They need to kill her on the bike path," was Jeff Love.

James Garretson (05:35):

Exactly. I called to fucking get a hundred grand. See my stories can't change. My shit's recorded.

- **What does he mean by getting 100k? For what? From whom? He says he can't change his stories because he's been recorded. He would change his stories if not?**

Paul Malagerio (05:50):

Okay, let me ask this question. I don't know all about this, but can they play the angle that you guys are

seriously discussing this? And then you turned to be a informant after you got the call from Fish and Game, because you knew they were watching Carole. Did you make the deal about this before that





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phone call to Carole?

James Garretson (06:12):

No.

Paul Malagerio (06:15):

Oh, okay. Do you see the issue that could be raised?

James Garretson (06:18):

That was after. It was after I called Carole, because remember, then Matt shows up at my fucking shop.

Paul Malagerio (06:25):

Okay. So, Joe's angle is he could say it was your idea, your plan, your whatever. Until you realize that the Fish and game was watching, and then you decide to set him up. That's where the setup theory comes.

- **Lowe and Garretson were either conspiring with Maldonado to seriously commit murder for hire or they were just orchestrating this all to set Maldonado up. They can't have it both ways.**

Paul Malagerio (06:55):

Yes, but if they can try to prove that you were part of it, it was your idea, you were part of the conspiracy until such time as Matt walked into your store and you went, "Oh, fuck. I better help these guys out or I'm going to get arrested." They'll bring that up.

James Garretson (07:15):

Yeah, that was discussed today. That was discussed. But you've got to think, **Joe was hiring another hitman. (Note: Says JG)** He already hired another hitman when he told me he was going to use mine. And he didn't tell me anything about Glover was already hired. So, one of the murder-for-hire counts, I wasn't even there. **(Note: One of...)**

Paul Malagerio (07:35):

Okay, here's the question you're going to be asked at some time. "Mr. Garrison, isn't it true you only became a witness for the Fish and Game after you found out they were investigating this thing, and they knew about it?" And basically, you'll say "Yeah."

James Garretson (07:51):

Yeah, my answer will be "Yes."

Paul Malagerio (07:54):

Yeah.

- **Paul has it figured out.**

James Garretson (11:55):

Okay, so when Alan Glover was supposedly go kill Carole, I was supposed to text him and be friendly, to find out when he was going to leave. If he was actually doing it or not. So I had to text him stuff. So, he was asking me for hookers. He was asking me for pills, and all this other shit. It was just crazy.





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- **Glover was going to see family in South Carolina using his SSI check. Garretson says “supposedly” go kill Baskin.**

James Garretson (14:05):

Yeah, but Jeff Lowe, that's a lying motherfucker, man, because he didn't tell the feds that he wanted me to call Carole to sell the place. He was trying to play the good guy and say that I was supposed to call Carole for him to warn her to stay off the bike. That lying motherfucker.

James Garretson (16:44):

No. I said to Jeff Johnson, "What are they going to do to help Joe?" "Well, they're going to drill Matt. And I gave him everything on Matt, all my text messages and everything."

James Garretson (17:04):

Matt was just like... You know, he looked shocked, but I guess he had told Jeff Johnson some things that's going to get his ass in a sling. Because when he followed me to the bathroom... Because you know, you've got to have one of them cops take you to the bathroom, because it's so fucking high security. So Matt had to go with me to the bathroom. He's like, "What do you think Jeff Johnson has on me?" "I don't know."

Paul Malagerio (17:25):

Oh, boy. Matt's in trouble. Matt's got a big mouth. From day one, he was talking too many fucking people.

- **What happened to Bryant? Did any of this make it into trial? Was it shared with the defense? Potential Brady / Giglio matters. Garretson describes Lowe as a “lying motherfucker.” Doesn't anyone else question the veracity of all these dubious characters?**

## **Review of: TEXT MESSAGES BETWEEN JEFF LOWE AND SA MATTHEW BRYANT GW EXOTICS INVESTIGATION – 2016202712**

***What is the source of this material? From whose phone? These look like transcribed texts. B=Bryant; L=Lowe.***

B – sidenote: I have asked James to work on Joe too since they have a relationship so if you hear about “James this” or James that” from Joe don't worry about it. Approaching from two angles is my process. James may hear about “Jeff this” or “Jeff that” which will benefit our overall approach.

- **Bryant is disclosing the identity of a CHS to another CHS.**

L – forgot to mention. John Finlay told his girlfriend at the bar last night, that if Jeff presses charges against Joe for forgery, that Jeff and Lauren will burn inside their cabin. So, when we take Joe down, can we can at least get a restraining order against him?







706 Pro-Med Lane, Suite 200A, Carmel, IN 46032

(317) 564-8383 [service@veracityiir.com](mailto:service@veracityiir.com)

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L – Got him talking about leaving for Belize. And he accused me of being violent. I told him it was not fair to accuse me of violence, when he paid a man to kill Carole Baskin and he **did not deny it**. I got a lot. Almost an hour worth, including Finlay's goat romance.

- **Lowe often makes statements about people not denying things as if it is an admission.**

L – I **just faked a text** to myself that appears to be from Alan. "Sir, would Joe let me come back and work for free for two months and call it even on the \$3,000? I swear I did not waste the money, it was expensive stalking Baskin's every move for a month" I just could t finish the job because she was never alone. Please ask him, I miss my family and the animals."

- **Lowe admits to making a "faked text," what other texts were fake? What other false statements made? I also think Lowe makes a lot of comments such as trying to make it appear as if he is sincere. He is manipulating Bryant throughout the investigation in my opinion.**

B – I just **don't want to introduce any facts that are not true** or previously known to us by Glover or Joe statements.

L – Yes Alan told me that Joe gave him \$3,000 to go to Tampa. I asked him if he actually did that. Alan said he went there and stalked her everyday for a month. He said that between hotel and food and gas, that Joe's money was gone.

L – and Alan is asking to come back to work. So all the statements are true the only lie is that Alan did not send the text.

B – **good ... share that story with Joe after you ask him to forgive the debt. If denial, show text.** Also, if denial, remind Joe ya'll already talked about this so story should be the same. I think Glover approach for forgiveness of debt is good approach. Plus zoo needs good worker.

- **At first, Bryant says not to do the fake text ruse. But then he okays it.**

B – Ok ... so did he admit to 3K to Alan? Or Not?

B – The MFH is our best option to get him indicted quick. The other stuff will be charged later.

L – I read him the whole text out loud. Stating that I (Alan) spent the three grand you me, stalking Baskin for 30 days, but could never get her alone" That's when Joe said that's a dangerous thing to have on your phone.

- **Maldonado didn't fall for the ruse. I don't any allegations made by Jeff or Lauren Lowe are ever supported with evidence**





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L – **Look, my lawyers really don't want me doing this.** The have worked two years defending my zoo at a cost of almost \$250,000. They know what Joe is and even before I met you, I had recently told them everything that I had discovered. They have told me that I cannot trust the Federal Government. And to be quite honest in 2007 when I had my Federal case, the Feds lied repeatedly claiming that I did things that I absolutely didn't do, so I know how it works. Im not specifically talking about you Matt, but the entire federal government as a whole. **I desperately want Joe to go down.** The murder for hrie was real and I know that you know that. The forgery and trafficking of cubs is real and you know that. But even this morning, Joes husband physically attacked me and we fought on the ground in the parking lot because he thinks I have wronged Joe somehow. This will be a very ugly, very public arrest that implicates dozens of people. The problem I have is that someone the feds insinuate that I'm one of the those people. My lawyers said I need 100% immunity to all of Joe's crimes before they are comfortable with me being the Governments star witness. The recording should be easy. Can you guarantee my immunity for my cooperation?

- **Lowe "desperately wants Joe to go down." Lowe wants the park free and clear of Joe.**

L – **He's just not talking.** I did it perfectly and refuses to do anything but **shrugs his shoulders.** There's no way he's gonna run his mouth anymore. So, if the two videos I have where he said "that's different" when talking about my temper vs his temper, along with all the admissions of cub trafficking and forgery and embezzlement, isn't enough to get him arrested (along with whatever you guys must already gathered), then I don't know what more I can do to help. He will get away with multiple felonies simply because he **refuses to admit**, as opposed to "not deny". I certainly wish I could get him to say more, but its like he's suspicious of everything now.

L – I said Alan is coming back to give him \$2000 of the baskin money and he shrugged and said you keep it. So, just another failure to deny

- **Failure to deny isn't an admission. Maldonado consistently doesn't admit and is supposedly "loose lipped" in other conversations. None of the CHSs ever get anything that looks like an admission from reviewed documents.**
- **Where are the reference screenshots?**

L – **you just never know with Joe, what's true and what's not.** I do know that his husband is already bitching about living in Lore Ensignns garage and he cant wait to get to belize

- **Lowe never knows with Maldonado what is true.**

L – got it. The whole thing. Joe paid me \$3000 to go to Tampa and kill Carole Baskin. Then promised him \$11,000 more when the job was done. Joe bought him a fake ID for hotels rooms. I have it all recorded.

B – AWESOME!

L – Alan claims he neve went to tamps





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L – tampa

L – but Joe thought he did

- **Lowe must be relaying a conversation he had with Alan Glover. Where is this recording? It doesn't appear to be true other than he may have lied about it. This is supposedly what Glover said, but Glover also has a grudge against Maldonado.**

L – The girl in the office even booked alan's ticket to SC from OKC to begin his trip South to Tampa (or so they thought)

L – got the recording. Its perfect

L – (audio of a portion of the conversation between Glover and Lowe)

- **There was a conversation earlier about Glover buying his own ticket. Also, it appears more likely Glover went to SC to visit family with his SSI check. This is all false information.**

B – Keep the faith. Stay the course. You and your park will be reborn when Joe is revealed.

- **He's working the case towards a desired outcome as opposed to investigating. Bryant promises Lowe's park will be "reborn."**

L – just recorded Alan. Confronted him with his first account events. He admitted that he did go down there multiple times.

- **They believe what they want to believe but call him a liar when its not what they want.**

Dude, you've gotta help do something about this fucking Jeff Johnson. He is flat out stalking me. This asshole must spend 5 hours a day psychotically posting shit about me. I may have to stop at this pricks house on my way to my rule 11 meeting.

- **The speaker is often not indicated in the texts. It is assumed the above is Lowe. The integrity of these conversations is questionable.**

L-Speak of coincidence, The taxidermist called the park today to say the 6 hides are done. I really dont want them, but dont want the taxidermist to get screwed. Any thoughts? Let me think on it for a day ...

B-I might want to talk with them ... give me some time to think about this

- **Why wouldn't he want to talk to them? These are the six pelts from the euthanized tigers.**

Tim, seriously? I asked you that day if you would relay that conversation to the authorities and you said you would. I'm trying to help clean up the scumbags and you just made me look like a liar. You know damned well that you said Joe offered you \$50,000 to go kill Carole Baskin, and now you claim it didnt





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**happen.** Tim, apparently you and me arent as much alike as I thought. If you cant find it within yourself to do what you said you would do, I would prefer you come get your cat off my property, why would I continue to help you if you have no loyalty to the ONLY guy that hasn't screwed you here. I'm not kidding, please come get Tigger and move him.

- **This must be Tim Mills discussed above. It supports Lowe making things up and not being able to back them up. Lowe likes to call or talk to people while recording and re-iterate things he has told Bryant then act like he's astonished, and they are now lying.**

Your boy Yogi doesn't want to speak with me ... referred me to his attorney.

Are you shitting me

No prob. I will just have US attorney contact their attorney tell them all we are looking at him for is just to repeat the conversation He admits in my texts back and forth between us, that Joe asked him

- **Nothing Jeff Lowe says can be supported with evidence. Was he or anyone polygraphed? Any source validation measures implemented on him or anyone? \*Source validation measures are designed to test the veracity of their information/cooperation. Sources lie all the time. As investigators it's our job to sort it out as best we can. It is unclear who is speaking, but it appears to be Bryant and Lowe.**

James is thoroughly convinced that no charges will be filed against Joe. **Please kill that theory for us.**

I had lunch with him today ... the time is making him wary but he understood.

I'm not worried but we need to verify joe had money to give to Glover. **That is only weak area** ... we will get there. We are strong on wildlife counts and getting stronger every day. Forgery stuff is strong too

- **The story about Maldonado giving money to Glover is the weak area and the only arguable overt act. Glover said he used SSI money to visit family which makes more sense. Engesser denies buying a cub at that time frame. Bryant is telling Lowe that Garretson doesn't think Maldonado will get convicted.**

**Something that doesn't add up ...** RE was there on thanksgiving or the day before. A li-liger is expensive so I know he paid more than 3K (that is just what Joe parted with to send Glover), so what did Joe do with the rest? Any cash deposits around that time? A li-liger should be \$5-\$7k, right? \$7500 is what I saw him charge people. Attachment And here is the other \$4000 Anything around thanksgiving? No, thats only 2 weeks later. Robert probably paid the balance after he got home, via walmart Good idea If Joe wanted that money for glover, I promise you he would have given robert time to pay the remainder I agree Especially if Robert was using it for cub playtimes, Joe would be comfortable that robert was making enough to cover the balance And that might also explain why he didnt send finlay to deliver the cub. He wasn't collecting it all up front, so he probably told Robert that he would need to come pick it up





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- **Bryant and Lowe are just speculating, making things up trying to explain why their story isn't adding up. What makes sense and can be backed up is Glover used his own SSI money to go visit his family in SC.**

Wonder if you can help. Because of Joe's 5 year dispute with Baskin, she managed to get a Federal Judge to agree with her that I'm nothing but an alter ego identity to Joe, and thus, until litigated in Jan, they want to place a receivers in the park to control all the money. Well, I will never let that happen. First, that receiver doesn't have a USDA license and second, he will never use my animals even if he did have a USDA license. They also don't have a State exhibitors license. Well, I'm going to file bankruptcy to back them off but I need a delay tactic because they want to inspect my zoo on the 16th. Is there any way you guys could step in asking for a delay in all civil matters, claiming that this park is a potential crime scene for violations against the endangered species act? The reason being Baskin's receiver will earn an unfair advantage in my trial against her if he's allowed to see the day to day happenings from the inside of the park. Once they discover the things that Joe has done it will poison the judge in my case. Because you are considering digging up the tigers and the chimpanzees is there anyway you guys can get me a month to get bankruptcy papers filed? The really fucked up part is they want access to all of my bank records which will be very definitely expose the embezzlement and the forgeries that you guys are investigating and dump all that information into Carol Baskin's lap

That is a lot of info. Let me digest it ... Ok. Call if you have any questions

- **This is Lowe asking Bryant for help by intervening in his civil case. The answer should be "no." Did Bryant help Lowe in his civil trial? If he did help, it would be a potential OPR matter.**

He just told Glover that he has enough on me to put me away for a long time? So he's waiting for the cops to arrive. I haven't done shit that you don't know about So I may pull your card out if the cops get squirrely

- **Was this resolved? Lowe is going to drop Bryant's name if the police show up. The conversation ended there.**





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## Review of: Discovered Post Trial - Text History Jeff Lowe and Matt Bryant

Matt,  
I just wanted to reach out and apologize to you for what I'm about to turn over to Joe's lawyers.  
I was assured by you and Andy that I was not the target here, that you know Lauren and I do things right and you thought it was great that we were moving to Thackerville for a fresh start.  
Now, after Tiger King exposes the massive failure of the DOJ, USDA and FWS, all bets are off.

The DOJ has forced me into a corner and I'm going to retaliate with videos and text messages that are going to prove to be very bad for a lot of people involved in Joe's trial.

Just like you guys recorded me, you must have suspected all along that we recorded everything too. Phone calls, visits, its all there. I never wanted this information to come out because I know that Joe deserves to be in prison, but I also know that the DOJ is trying to save face by accusing us of wrongdoing.

Thank you for your time. And again, I'm sorry.

Delivered

- Jeff Lowe turns on Bryant when he starts ghosting him.

## Review of: Discovered Post Trial - Text History - Lauren Lowe and Agent Bryant

Text message  
3/25/19, 10:32 AM

OH MY GOD!!! ALLEN HAD SEX WITH ASHLEY WEBSTER!!! SHE LIVED IN HIS TRAILER!!!

iMessage  
3/25/19, 1:40 PM

Thank you for the info. Please, no more texting. Ask for a call or meeting and we can discuss.

- Bryant is now being cautious about texting sources/witnesses.







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## Review of: Discovered Post Trial - Lauren Lowe and Chealsi Putnam Text Exchange from JMP Extraction - 2021-05-21 15 21 45

It's ok I just come to realize we will get nothing back it's fine this family is so messed up I'm sure Pam helped him sell some also , I am trying to get my other papers ready for matt today so hopefully we get enough rounded up the fag can rot in jail

- Chealsi appears very biased against Maldonado.

That's how it's been from the beginning. They kept saying they were going to arrest him and kept getting pushed back further

Yep that's how it's been my whole life ! I have been trying to get joe in trouble for year and years

Who pissed of Jeff Johnson matt just told me yesterday that he has to keep him from telling all he might just mess this entire thing up for us all

I have no idea who pissed him off. We saw it on Facebook too. He is a grown man that can't even keep his mouth shut. He gets pissed off that Matt tells me you stuff that he won't tell him and he gets all butt hurt about it

Yes he was mad that matt called us when joe was arrested but not him

- Chelsea states: "I have been trying to get joe in trouble for years and years"

## Review of: Final Transcript of Initial Interview with Jeff Lowe (1)

James Garretson (00:04:37):

I haven't really said much to Matt about asshole, but I kind of just told him.

Jeff Lowe (00:10:55):

So they stealing money out of my bank, putting it as campaign fund. So he can go in and do all of these parades and all this shit. All right? Using my park to pay for all of the bumper stickers and the t-shirts and the water bottles that he's giving away, which besides the fact it's embezzlement, it's campaign finance violations.

Jeff Lowe (00:13:53):

So all I know is I've got him on \$100,000 dollars worth of fraud and when I confronted him, he just said,





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first it happened in the office. And then he says, "I got to see your proof." But we had it all laid out and he just sat there like, "I'm fucked."

Jeff Lowe (00:14:11):

So I've got him admitting to everything that he's done.

- **It appears this is a lie designed to manipulate the investigators. There was never any evidence to support this claim.**

Matthew Bryant (00:14:16):

Why are you willing to turn him in this?

Jeff Lowe (00:14:22):

The list of reasons is this high. But stealing from me, we went to Las Vegas and we rented a house to start this business out there. And I was using probably four or \$5,000 a month from park income to do that. So all of a sudden I get... How did we find out that he said that?

- **Lowe states his motivation is Maldonado stealing from him.**

Matthew Bryant (00:16:15):

So I'm interested in kind of all aspects of this. I'm trying to kind of get an idea of, since he's into so many things, kind of where to go. And I have heard, obviously, in my occupation, I've heard of Joe in little bits and pieces of people calling in and complaints, but nothing real substantial or nothing that anybody had anything on other than some hearsay. I had checked into it a little bit, but it was always just seemed like it was a game or some type of deal going on.

- **Bryant never had anything substantial prior to Lowe/Garretson.**

James Garretson (00:19:34):

Joe's just a monster.

- **Garretson showing prejudice against Maldonado.**

Matthew Bryant (00:22:39):

So if he's selling tiger cubs in interstate commerce, how can we prove that?

Lauren Lowe (00:22:45):

I have him on video.

Jeff Lowe (00:22:48):

We have it on recording.

- **There doesn't appear to be a recording of this.**





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Jeff Lowe (00:23:27):

Yeah, but we can prove it. I mean, we can prove it.

- **They never prove the allegation.**

Jeff Lowe (00:25:41):

Right. So I want him arrested to where he's not coming back here. And he's already threatened me with... What he did is, is he found out Lauren and I come back, when I texted him, I said... I'm looking for it. I said, "I'm coming back and I'm pressing charges." I said, "I'm done. I'm headed back and I'm going to close the park down and file charges. I gave you everything and you fucked me over and over and over." He says, "I'm all for closing the park. I can't do this anymore. And I'm not worried about telling the truth, what it takes to run this place." And I said, "Yeah, loyalty and we have none around here."

- **Lowe states his true motivation. He doesn't want Maldonado to come back to the park.**

Jeff Lowe (00:28:52):

He's just a big drama queen. Okay? Another one, there was an employee that worked here. I brought this employee from... I didn't bring him. He worked for me in South Carolina. Okay? I was in Las Vegas, but I brought Allen over here to work. Allen was a great worker and Joe really liked Allen and took some kind of a... I think he trusted Allen. Joe didn't trust many people.

- **Lowe brought Glover in. Lowe first said Maldonado trusted Glover, but later said he hated him.**

Matthew Bryant (00:35:47):

I don't mind opening up a case and doing this, but here's hierarchy for me on the crimes. The murder for hire, it's a good one, but we need an overt act. We need money changing hands, handing him a gun, doing something. We need an overt act or it's all just talk. Then we get to the wildlife stuff. The wildlife stuff's good stuff to work. The felony stuff on the interstate commerce, selling of endangered species, lemurs, tigers, [inaudible 00:36:16] and stuff like that-

- **Bryant states they need to show an overt act.**

Jeff Lowe (00:37:12):

The money from here can't go to the bar. You're fucked, Joe. You just had James create a fake campaign deposit. You had fucking had Bill Meadows do it and you had Lorry [inaudible 00:37:23] do it. You think that's legal? You're going to get me in fucking trouble, Joe, and I came here to save your ass.

Joe Maldonado-Passage (00:37:31):

How-





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- **This is the beginning of Lowe playing the recording of a long conversation with Maldonado and Lauren where Lowe screams and makes multiple allegations towards Maldonado. Maldonado never admits to anything, yet it is presented to Bryant as proof of Lowe's allegations.**

Lauren Lowe (00:58:14):

I heard Joe say it many times.

Matthew Bryant (00:58:14):

That he gave him \$3,000?

Lauren Lowe (00:58:16):

Uh-huh (affirmative). I've heard it many times.

Matthew Bryant (00:58:16):

Will Alan admit that he received \$3,000?

Jeff Lowe (00:58:23):

Would you give him immunity? [inaudible 00:58:25] if he can get immunity, but I didn't tell you what Alan did. I only found this out until I [crosstalk 00:58:32] Alan wanted to come by to talk to me.

- **They discuss how Maldonado allegedly said he paid \$3000 to Glover. Lowe says Gover will admit it if he gets immunity. Its never proven that Maldonado paid Glover anything nor that he even said he did. Only Glover says he was paid, but his story isn't credible.**

Jeff Lowe (01:00:40):

He's the fucking hardest worker and he's loyal to me. That's why I kept him around. I never saw him commit any crimes. He had a problem with alcohol, but-

Lauren Lowe (01:00:50):

But he would do anything for us. [crosstalk 01:00:53]

- **Glover is loyal to Jeff, "would do "anything."**

Jeff Lowe (01:02:16):

He just asked me to talk to him again. I could completely fucking set him up. I could do this, I could say, "Where did you get \$3,000 to pay Allen to go kill Carole Baskin?" And let's see what he says. [inaudible 01:02:32], "Well it didn't come out of the park money." But he'll probably say it came out of cub money.

- **Lowe says he "could completely set him up." It appears he did.**





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Matthew Bryant (01:17:10):

More I'm thinking right now, is I don't want to do anything that is not something that's on his mind, that he wants to do. I don't want to get into an entrapment deal. We're trying to get him to... It's got to be something that he knows that... And he's been doing it and it's his idea and he wants to do it, we just make it so that it happens. I don't want to create something.

- **Bryant is concerned about entrapment.**

Matthew Bryant (01:19:01):

All right. Well before we set up anything like that, let's just see... The murder for hire is number one.

Jeff Lowe (01:19:09):

Yeah.

Matthew Bryant (01:19:10):

All right. What we got to do is get him out of his mouth, acknowledging that he paid \$3,000 to Glover.

Jeff Lowe (01:19:19):

I think I could get that.

Speaker 2 (01:19:20):

If you just said Allen's coming back, would he fucking probably say it?

James Garretson (01:19:23):

"You bring me my 3,000?"

- **They need to get Maldonado to admit to paying \$3000. He never does.**

Jeff Lowe (01:30:27):

Lemurs. I just had two lemurs given to me by Scott Sharkarosa. Donated to me. I called them up and said, "Have you got a couple of lemurs I can put on display in the cage?" He goes, "Absolutely."

Matthew Bryant (01:30:38):

That goes back, I have to ask you the question. In this industry, nobody donates nothing to anybody.

Jeff Lowe (01:30:44):

They do. [crosstalk 01:30:45] you'd be shocked. Tim Stark, you know [inaudible 01:30:47]?

- **Jeff explains it is common for animals to be donated when he is the recipient. Earlier he makes it seem as if donations are a ruse to get around the illegality of sales.**





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Jeff Lowe (01:33:50):

For three years that I've known Joe, all he's talked about is killing Carole Baskin. So when I hear it, I'm not even phased by it anymore. When I found out he gave money, it was like, "Holy fuck! You're serious."

- **For three years Maldonado talked about it and was never taken seriously.**

Matthew Bryant (01:54:22):

What about Dr. Greene? Is he into his pocket or-

Jeff Lowe (01:54:27):

No, no. Dr. Greene is so by-the- books. She's-

- **Lowe claims Dr. Greene is by the book...**

## Review of: USFWS Reports 4

SA Bryant showed them a Veterinary Record, prepared by Dr. GREEN (See attachment #6, Veterinary Record). This record indicated that Dr. GREEN euthanized six (6) tigers on June 28, 2017, and indicated the tigers were of advanced age, had teeth problems and skin conditions. The group discussed the date and agreed no animals were killed on June 28, 2017, and this had to be referring to June 17, 2017. Cowie and West, who were at the zoo and around Dr. GREEN and MALDONADO on June 17, 2017, indicated that no examination was conducted before the tigers were euthanized.

- **The records aren't clear nor are people's memories about which tigers were euthanized, when, by whom nor why.**
- SA Bryant informed Cowie that Dr. GREEN had submitted a veterinary examination document, identifying illnesses for each animal. Cowie stated that if there was an examination done it was done post mortem.
- **Dr. Green submitted illnesses for each animal euthanized.**







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He stated that he believed it was around this same time period, MALDONADO killed several tigers himself. MALDONADO had us lock up four (4) tigers in an area at GWEAP called the island. The tigers were sedated and MALDONADO killed them with a .410 shotgun. Another cat named Cuddles was in the far back pens. I watched MALDONADO take the .410 shotgun to the back pen and heard a shot. MALDONADO came walking back towards me and said, "That was easy. Came right up to me."

- **The animals were sedated prior to being euthanized.**

### **Review of: USFWS Reports 5**

The excavator was stopped and SA Bryant, SA Markley, GW Farrar, and GW Judkins began slowly digging with hand tools and brushes. The patch of fur was a portion of the front leg of what appeared to be a tiger. The four (4) agents worked methodically to locate the head of the animal, which was then slowly excavated to ensure preservation of evidence. As the head was excavated, an additional carcass was discovered lying beside the originally located carcass. The first skull was removed from the excavation site using a plastic bag to ensure no evidence was lost. GW Judkins then took the skull to the evidence processing location to attempt to locate any bullet hole, or damage to the skull. A hole was located in the right side of the skull, just above the orbital, in what would be considered the forehead area.

This process was repeated until five (5) tiger skulls had been exhumed from the same area. GW Judkins conducted a field analysis of each skull and reported the following:

- **They only took the heads. At issue not just if Maldonado euthanized them but why. Without the full carcass, forensic exams can't be conducted to determine if the animals were injured, and/or diseased. Also, an approximate date of their death can often be determined with a full carcass by evaluating decomposition, insect activity, etc.**

Skull suture seals were indicative of adult animals. Tooth wear was limited to the incisors in all animals but LAB-1. This, combined with minimal to moderate tartar buildup on the teeth, suggest early- to middle-adult animals. No bony indicators of dental disease were present.

All the skulls were markedly autolyzed. A time since death cannot be accurately given as many variables work in the decomposition process and the entire carcass was not available for examination. I suspect, however, that at least several months had elapsed between death and exhumation.





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- **The forensic exam is limited due to not having the entire carcass. As a former FBI Agent and member of the Evidence Response Team, it would have been appropriate to take the entire carcasses. It would have taken an order from a superior to just take the heads. There's no reason not to take the entire carcasses unless they specifically do not want to look for evidence the tigers were injured or diseased as reported.**

### Review of: USFWLS Reports 6

- REINKE stated he was there when MALDONADO shot and killed five (5) cats, including Cuddles. REINKE thought all the cats were declawed and limped. He stated USDA wanted them to do something with the limping cats. REINKE stated "it sucked" but MALDONADO was his boss and told him what to do. Dr. JoAnne Green was not there and did not know anything about it. MALDONADO put all the staff somewhere because you had to always suspect a PETA infiltrator may be there. REINKE stated he did not shoot them. MALDONADO knew better than to ask him to shoot them because he would not have done it.
- **Reinke advises the cat had medical issues from being declawed.**
- MALDONADO made frequent remarks about doing harm to Carole Baskin. REINKE stated he had also made comments like this but it was just talk out of frustration. REINKE stated he did not think MALDONADO was serious but he did not know money changed hands until all this became known.
- **Reinke didn't think Maldonado was serious about killing Baskin until he heard of money changing hands. Reinke has only heard of money changing hands from Lowe et. al..**

End of report.

