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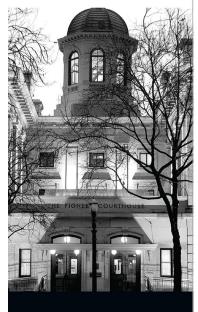
LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS



THE CITY OF SPOKANE

AND

FRANK STAUB





DEPOSITION AND TRIAL



(800) 528-3335 NAEGELIUSA.COM INTERVIEW OF

SARAH LYNDS

TAKEN ON TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 2016 2:06 P.M.

SPOKANE COUNTY COURTHOUSE 1116 WEST BROADWAY AVENUE SPOKANE, WASHINGTON 99260

1	IINTERVIEW CONDUCTED BY:
2	
3	
4	KRIS CAPPEL, ESQUIRE
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8	(206) 522-1152
9	kcappel@seaboldgroup.com
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1	INTERVIEW OF
2	SARAH LYNDS
3	TAKEN ON
4	TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 2016
5	2:06 P.M.
6	
7	THE REPORTER: The time is now 2:06 p.m. We are
8	on record.
9	MS. CAPPEL: My name is Kris Cappel. I'm with the
10	Seabold Group. The City of Spokane has retained Seabold
11	Group to conduct an investigation of several issues
12	involving the circumstances of former Chief Straub's
13	departure from the City. We're here today with Sarah Lynds.
14	And Sarah, can you make sure we have the spelling correct on
15	your name. Go ahead and spell your name
16	MS. LYNDS: Oh. S-a-r-a-h, L-y-n-d-s.
17	MS. CAPPEL: This interview is in addition to
18	being transcribed is also being audio recorded. Sarah, do I
19	have your permission to record this interview?
20	MS. LYNDS: Yes.
21	MS. CAPPEL: Great. I want to explain the purpose
22	or excuse me, the role that we've been asked to play in
23	this investigation. I am a lawyer but I have not been hired
24	as a lawyer and so I won't be giving legal advice and the
25	City is not asking me for legal advice. I will purely be a

1 fact finder. And the issues that I've been asked to 2 investigate are in a scope document that I gave you a copy 3 of today, but which is, also has been circulated to other individuals who have been to meet with me. And so the focus 5 of my questions are going to be on these issues in the scope document. And one of the things we talked about and I'll 6 7 reiterate on the record is that there's a high interest in 8 the investigation publicly, and there's also been litigation 9 filed. So I'm quite certain that somebody somewhere is going to request copies of the transcripts of interviews 10 11 that I've conducted. And I think that those will be likely 12 disclosed. So I want to make sure that everyone I meet with 13 understands that. And so like I said, we've talked about 14 that.

I think that's everything I wanted to mention before we got started. Any questions before we get started?

MS. LYNDS: No.

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MS. CAPPEL: Great. Can we start with how long you've been with the City and the different positions that you've held.

MS. LYNDS: I've only been here at the City since June 30th of 2014, and this is the only position that I've held.

MS. CAPPEL: And what is your title?

MS. LYNDS: It is Deputy Director of Strategic

Initiatives. And part way through, I can't remember what exact time, the -- Straub had designated internally that I was the Director of Business and Finance. So that -- but that wasn't on, like, totally, like, in the books, like at City Hall or anything and that, but that's how he referred to me as.

MS. CAPPEL: Okay. So I'll go into a little bit of that. Hired June of 2014. But you were with the City, you came from outside the City?

MS. LYNDS: Yes. Correct.

MS. CAPPEL: Who was involved in interviewing you and extending the offer?

MS. LYNDS: Initially, I was interviewed by City
Hall for a position. And that was with Gavin and a few of
the accounting folks down there. From what I've been told,
Gavin came -- came to Tim Schwering and said that I think
she'd be a good fit in your -- in your department. They were
having some accounting issues, I guess, not necessarily
inside the department, but with the going back and forth
between City Hall and the personnel that were involved with
-- they had, I guess, taken the accounting folks out and put
them in City Hall and then they were in transition. They
had just brought them back out -- back to SPD. And so they
were looking for a leadership -- from what I'm told, they
were looking for a leadership role and so he approached Tim

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Schwering and said I think she'd be a good fit. At that
1
  point, I had met with Tim Schwering and he then, after that
  he then had me just meet the Chief at that point. It was
3
   about a five, maybe ten-minute meeting. And that's when
5
  they extended the offer. And I did the -- then I started --
   and at that point, that's when I had to go in the background
7
   and all the -- the -- whatever it -- all the stuff you have
8
  to do to go -- get into SPD so --
9
             MS. CAPPEL: Okay. But you're a civilian
   employee?
10
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MS. LYNDS: Yes, correct.

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MS. CAPPEL: And when you were hired is Deputy
Director of Strategic Initiatives the title they told you
you would be hired under?

MS. LYNDS: I can't remember exactly if that's what they said it was, but I knew I was coming in as deputy director. I don't think -- I don't think they ever said it was a strategic initiatives. It was just the open position that they had at the time. But I -- and again, I wasn't a part of that so I don't know.

MS. CAPPEL: Okay. And what did they tell you you would be doing in the department?

MS. LYNDS: Doing all the finance and all the
budgets, all the -- basically, all the financial part of the
- of SPD.

```
1
             MS. CAPPEL:
                           And did they tell you whether you
   would supervise staff?
 2
 3
             MS. LYNDS:
                         Yes.
                                Yes.
 4
             MS. CAPPEL: And what did they tell you about
 5
   that?
 6
             MS. LYNDS: They didn't tell me a lot about the
 7
   staff at all. They just said there -- and I just -- I've
8
   been in several jobs before where in that position, you have
   staff. You've got payroll. So I knew coming into it I'd
 9
   have payroll. I'd have AP. I'd have the accounting folks.
10
11
   I'd have all those HR. I'd have all those things underneath
12
   of me so I knew I was getting employees so there wasn't a
13
   lot that I asked about that just because going into it you
14
   know you're going to get a variety of employees.
15
             MS. CAPPEL: Okay. And so --
16
             THE REPORTER: A what?
17
             MS. CAPPEL: A variety.
18
             MS. LYNDS: A variety of -- yeah, of employees.
19
             MS. CAPPEL: How many did you end up with when you
   took the position?
20
21
             MS. LYNDS: Oh, let's see I have one, two, three,
   four, five, six, -- one, two, three, four, five, six -- six
   immediate reports and then I had one that was in the budget
23
   that was not filled yet. Or that was going to be -- sorry.
24
```

That was going to be in the '15 budget and I knew about that

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was not filled yet.
 1
 2
             MS. CAPPEL: What position was that?
 3
             MS. LYNDS: That was my buyer. Well, at the time
   it was classified as an Accountant I position, but I
 5
   reclassified it into a buyer position.
 6
             MS. CAPPEL: Buyer?
 7
             MS. LYNDS:
                         Buyer.
8
             MS. CAPPEL: So what are they -- what does the
9
   person do?
10
             MS. LYNDS That just buys --
11
             MS. CAPPEL: Police equipment?
12
             MS. LYNDS: Yep. Pretty much.
13
             MS. CAPPEL: That'd be a fun
14
             MS. LYNDS: And a lot of --
15
             MS. CAPPEL: -- job actually.
16
             MS. LYNDS: Yeah. And does a lot of the -- all
  the contracts, contract compliance. Making sure we're
   following all the RCW's, all the City rules -- rules or I
18
  guess process and procedures.
20
             MS. CAPPEL: And who currently holds that
  position?
21
22
             MS. LYNDS: Mikayla Martinez.
23
             MS. CAPPEL: And who were the other six direct
24
   reports?
25
             MS. LYNDS: Erica Wade is my Accountant II. Angie
```



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1
   Chirowango (LNU).
             THE REPORTER: Can you please spell that?
 2
 3
             MS. LYNDS: I actually can't. I can -- it's C-h-
   i-r-o-w-a- -- I can get those for you if you want me to.
 4
 5
             MS. CAPPEL:
                         We'll follow up on that. So Erica,
 6
   Angie -- Angie's position was?
7
             MS. LYNDS: Accountant I.
8
             MS. CAPPEL: Okay.
 9
             MS. LYNDS: Accounting -- what is the exact
   classification? So Kim Claar's -- C-l-a-r -- a-a-r and the
10 l
   accounting -- is it specialist or is it -- I can follow up -
11
12
   - I'll have to follow up with the title -- the title and the
  name if you want.
13 l
             MS. CAPPEL: Okay.
14
15
             MS. LYNDS: And then also in payroll I have
   Courtney -- well, at the time it wasn't Courtney, it was Kim
16
17
   Anderson, but now it's Courtney.
18
             MS. CAPPEL: Payroll --
             MS. LYNDS: And this is going to be payroll/HR.
19
20
             MS. CAPPEL: It was Kim now it's --
21
             MS. LYNDS: Courtney Scherar.
22
             MS. CAPPEL: Okay.
23
             MS. LYNDS: And then Maria R -- it's A-r-t-i
24
   something.
25
             MS. CAPPEL: Okay. What's her position?
```



```
1
             MS. LYNDS:
                         She's payroll as well.
 2
             MS. CAPPEL: Okay. So one, two, three, four,
 3
   five.
 4
             MS. LYNDS:
                         And then I got Mel Fitzgerald.
 5
             MS. CAPPEL: And that's --
 6
             MS. LYNDS:
                         She -- she just does -- she does --
 7
   she kind of helps out with payroll, accounting and she does
 8
   kind of a little bit of everything.
 9
             MS. CAPPEL: Is she considered like an admin?
10
             MS. LYNDS:
                         They're all - all considered admin,
11
   but she's like a -- an accounting -- I think it's specialist
12
   but I have -- I'd have to look at the accounting -- it's --
   it's like you have accountant -- or Accountant II,
13
14
   Accountant I, then you have the accounting support
15
   basically.
16
             MS. CAPPEL:
                         Okay. And were you physically
   located in the public safety building?
17
18
             MS. LYNDS:
                         Yes.
19
             MS. CAPPEL: And still are?
20
             MS. LYNDS:
                         Yes.
21
             MS. CAPPEL: Okay. And do you report to Tim.
22
             MS. LYNDS:
                              I -- well, initially when I was
                         No.
                              It was -- and I can't remember
23
   hired, I reported to Tim.
   timing on it, but it was probably five months after I was
24
25
  hired it was determined that I was to report directly to
```

Frank at that point.

MS. CAPPEL: So that would have been -- okay. So we're talking about 2014?

MS. LYNDS: It would have been -- I think it was around the beginning of the year. I can't -- exact timing, I mean, I didn't remember because it was just, okay.

MS. CAPPEL: Was there any change to your position that came with the change in reporting?

MS. LYNDS: Not the doing -- the day-to-day stuff, but I think that they started realizing that I started bringing up the issues that I was finding that it was a much larger job and much larger demand or whatever than what they initially thought. So as I started bringing up issues, that's when I believe he decided that he wanted me to report to him because that's who I was going to with all of my finding -- all my facts and finding. And -- and that's when they started calling me director of business services, which is technically, I guess, in the past. I don't know this -- this is just hearsay, but it was somebody else in that position before.

MS. CAPPEL: So it was an open slot so to speak?

MS. LYNDS: It's -- it's a open position, but it's not -- it wasn't in the budget. So that's how come they couldn't put me in that position. They said there wasn't any budget for that.

```
1
             MS. CAPPEL: Did you make any more money --
 2
             MS. LYNDS:
                         No.
 3
             MS. CAPPEL: -- when you became director?
 4
             MS. LYNDS:
                         Huh-uh.
 5
             MS. CAPPEL: Did your -- are you a civil -- are
 6
   you protected under civil service?
7
             MS. LYNDS:
                         I believe -- yeah.
8
             MS. CAPPEL: As a deputy director?
 9
             MS. LYNDS: I'm a direct mayor appointee. So I'm
  thinking probably not.
10 l
11
             MS. CAPPEL: Okay. I'm going to show you an
12
   organizational chart that was provided to me and it's dated
   2014. I don't know if that is when it was created. I don't
13
   know if it was ever formally adopted. But if you look at
14
   this section under Tim Schwering, does that resemble current
16
  reality?
17
             MS. LYNDS:
                         Huh-uh. Not even close.
18
             MS. CAPPEL: Yes or no?
19
             THE REPORTER: Yes or -- yeah. Sorry. The mm-
20
   hm's don't --
21
             MS. LYNDS: Oh, right. Right.
22
             THE REPORTER: -- come out.
23
             MS. LYNDS:
                        Oh, okay.
24
             MS. CAPPEL: So let me ask you --
25
             MS. LYNDS: Oh, gotcha.
```

```
MS. CAPPEL:
 1
                         Does the -- does the organizational
 2
   chart as it relates to Tim Schwering, is that accurate?
 3
             MS. LYNDS: As of now or as of then?
 4
             MS. CAPPEL:
                         As of now.
 5
             MS. LYNDS:
                         No.
 6
             MS. CAPPEL:
                          No.
 7
             MS. LYNDS:
                         No.
8
             MS. CAPPEL: And how about when you were first
 9
   hired?
10
             MS. LYNDS:
                         Let's see. When I very first was
11
   hired, this had already been re -- I don't know when this
12
   was updated back then, but what I was told when I was hired
   was that this -- this was no longer underneath this. The --
13
14
   the director of strategic initiatives no longer -- was not
   going to be doing this because this was --
15
16
             MS. CAPPEL: This is payroll --
17
             MS. LYNDS: -- so big. Yes. So this here --
18
             MS. CAPPEL: Business services --
                         Business services, payroll and all
19
             MS. LYNDS:
   that stuff was under me.
20
21
             MS. CAPPEL: Okay.
22
                         And clerical support, I guess that --
             MS. LYNDS:
   would you consider part of me -- I -- no, that must -- that
23
   probably is going to be like their secretary that they have
24
   out -- that the Chief had.
25
```

```
1
             MS. CAPPEL:
                          Okay. So the title existed, deputy
   director of strategic and tactical initiatives, but they
 2
 3
   dropped the tactical? Did you ever have that title?
 4
             MS. LYNDS:
                         I think it's just - that's what I --
 5
             MS. CAPPEL:
                         Okay.
 6
             MS. LYNDS: I think in the budget this is -- it
 7
   does show that, but I'd have to go back and look.
                                                       I -- at
8
  this point there was somebody else in this position who was
 9
   over the business services and accounting and all that
   stuff, and that's -- she basically was reverted back to an
10
11
   Accountant II.
12
             MS. CAPPEL: And who is that?
13
             MS. LYNDS:
                         That's Erica Wade.
14
             MS. CAPPEL: So Erica was the deputy director --
15
             MS. LYNDS:
                         Director of business --
16
             MS. CAPPEL: -- of business services.
17
             MS. LYNDS:
                         Correct.
18
             MS. CAPPEL: And --
19
             MS. LYNDS: And she was until the beginning of
20
   2015.
21
             MS. CAPPEL: And was your understanding that she
   took the other position?
23
             MS. LYNDS: She requested to roll back.
24
             MS. CAPPEL: To business services?
25
             MS. LYNDS: Just to accounting -- an Accountant II
```

```
Sarah Lynds March 15, 2016 NDT Assgn # 21084-10
 1
   position.
 2
             MS. CAPPEL: Did she discuss with you her reason
 3
   for wanting to roll back?
 4
             MS. LYNDS: She wasn't real specific on exact
 5
   reasons why. I knew why, but she didn't -- she was not
   specific in why. She didn't lay out exact reasons of why
 6
 7
   she requested that.
             MS. CAPPEL: This is one of those areas -- did you
 8
 9
   see something that you determined was probably the reason
10
   she --
11
             MS. LYNDS: Not directly --
12
             MS. CAPPEL: -- rolled back?
             MS. LYNDS: -- with her. Not -- not -- nothing
13
  that was done directly to her.
14
15
             MS. CAPPEL: To others?
16
             MS. LYNDS: I don't know what was -- what happened
17 I
  before I was there, but again, that's speculation. That was
18
   hearsay, and so I don't know what really -- everything that
19 l
   really occurred.
20
             MS. CAPPEL: Okay. Do you know whether her
   decision to roll back had anything to do with Chief Straub?
21
22
                          I think it was environment.
             MS. LYNDS:
23
             MS. CAPPEL: Work environment?
```

MS. CAPPEL: Involving Straub's behavior?

MS. LYNDS: I think work environment, myself.

24

```
Not to her directly. But this is an
 1
             MS. LYNDS:
   appointed position by the Mayor.
 2
 3
             MS. CAPPEL: The deputy director?
 4
             MS. LYNDS:
                         Yes. And I think that played into it
 5
   because -- I think it played into it because of being a
   direct -- basically, you don't have civil -- so you don't
   have civil service, I guess, under that. So, yeah. No.
8
   That -- I think played into a lot of it.
 9
             MS. CAPPEL: Okay.
10
                         Is having that civil service
             MS. LYNDS:
11
   protection. And the pay was exactly the same so it was no
   loss there on pay.
12
13
             MS. CAPPEL: Did anybody replace Erica in the
  deputy director business service position?
14
15
             MS. LYNDS:
                         Nothing else changed. She was still
   reporting to me as she was before. She was reporting to me
16
17
   before when I got there. She is doing the same work.
             MS. CAPPEL: All right. So I got lost in what I
18
19
   was doing there. The current structure in the area that Tim
20
   is overseeing --
21
             MS. LYNDS: Do you have an updated one of these?
22
             MS. CAPPEL: I do not.
23
             MS. LYNDS:
                         No.
24
             MS. CAPPEL: Unfortunately. Do you know who was -
25
   - who had filled the deputy director strategic initiative
```

1 position before you? 2 I don't -- I don't -- from MS. LYNDS: I heard. 3 what I heard, she had come downtown, I think it was the Ombudsman position I believe. I think she was only here for a very short time from what I've been told again. But other 5 than that, I don't know anything about her. I don't know --6 7 MS. CAPPEL: Okay. 8 MS. LYNDS: Besides hearsay. 9 MS. CAPPEL: And what's her name? 10 MS. LYNDS: I honestly don't know. I didn't even 11 pay attention. Someone said it at one time, but I didn't --12 at that point I was so busy doing work that I --13 MS. CAPPEL: Okay. It didn't really matter to me so --14 MS. LYNDS: and, in fact, I didn't even hear -- I didn't even know about 15 that person being in that position for several months after. 16 17 I thought I was the first person in that position so --18 because it was a newly created -- I believe these two were 19 newly created positions. 20 MS. CAPPEL: The director of strategic initiatives 21 22 MS. LYNDS: Yes. 23 MS. CAPPEL: -- and the deputy director position?

a year before that, I believe. I believe. Again, I did not (800)528-3335

I believe that these were within

24

25

MS. LYNDS:

Yes.

```
1
   go back and verify that because I didn't -- not have time
   with how much -- what the workload was like.
 2
 3
             MS. CAPPEL: Okay. So when you first met Chief
   Straub, you mentioned it was rather short before they
 5
   offered you the position. Had you met him -- that was a
 6
   yes?
7
             MS. LYNDS: Yes.
8
             MS. CAPPEL: Had you met him before --
 9
             MS. LYNDS:
                         No.
10
             MS. CAPPEL: -- that first introduction?
11
             MS. LYNDS:
                         Nope.
12
             MS. CAPPEL: And you reported to Tim for the first
   five months. How would you describe your reporting
13 l
  relationship with Tim?
14
15
             MS. LYNDS: Very well. Tim and I -- I mean there
  was no issues. Not at all, no issues at all.
16 l
             MS. CAPPEL: Were you attending executive team
17
18 meetings when you were reporting to Tim?
19
             MS. LYNDS: I started attend -- and again,
20
   timeline is a long time ago, but it was a few months after I
   was being -- that I was there that I started attending the
21
   exec meetings.
22
23
             MS. CAPPEL: And how often did those occur?
24
             MS. LYNDS: Every Monday -- well, for most of the
```

time, every Monday at 8:30 or 9:00. Sorry. And then they

```
switched to 11. They -- but it was every Monday.
 1
 2
             MS. CAPPEL: And did you continue to attend those
 3
   meetings through the rest of Chief Straub's tenure?
             MS. LYNDS:
 4
                         Yes.
 5
             MS. CAPPEL: And who else would typically be at
 6
   those meetings?
 7
             MS. LYNDS: It was just exec staff, so it was
8
   going to be Straub obviously, Tim, Selby Smith and Rick
 9
            And that team was consistent the whole time.
10
             MS. CAPPEL: Anybody else that was attending while
11
   you were --
12
             MS. LYNDS: For a short -- I can't remember when
   Teresa started -- Fuller. Teresa Fuller was attending for
13
   some time and I can't remember if it was when she came in
14
   and went out. I didn't pay attention, but I know she was in
15 l
  some of them.
16
             MS. CAPPEL: What about Monique Cotton?
17
18
             MS. LYNDS: Oh, yes, sorry. Yes, of course she
19 l
   was there.
20
             MS. CAPPEL: And is that up to the time she
21
   transferred --
22
             MS. LYNDS: Yes.
23
             MS. CAPPEL: -- to parks?
24
             MS. LYNDS:
25
             MS. CAPPEL: All right. You mentioned that your
```

understanding of one of the reasons you were asked to report directly to Straub is the issues you were finding. You were talking to him about them anyway. So what were the -- what were the issues that you were discovering?

the budget had been -- the budget that they had three years prior and compared to what they had when I got there -- and I had a lot of areas doubled or tripled since I got there. And so it was bringing up the -- a lot of them were issues of, hey, did you know that we went from spending X amount three years ago to spending this amount now. A lot them were processes and procedures that had either, one, never been there or had gone somehow by the wayside. I really didn't dig into what was there -- you know, what was there years ago, because at that point I was way too buried in work to -- to even care about what was there. But things I was coming up with that -- there was no approval process or there was little -- very -- I shouldn't say no.

There was very limited approval process for purchases. There was just -- there was just things that -- that were not best business practice from my experience in the past. And so I was -- and really, I shouldn't say it was directly -- everything was to him. It was really as a group when things would come up. Exec staff is when I'd bring stuff up and they would make -- we would make a

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decision going forward, okay, yes, we do want to address this issue. We do want to put policies -- and I wouldn't 3 say necessarily written policies, but we need to address the fact that who's purchasing what and that's where the whole -- I decided at -- at -- later that I was going to create the buyer position or change that Accountant I to a buyer position because we knew that we had large -- large needs in that area.

Who was overseeing -- as far as you MS. CAPPEL: could tell, who was overseeing the budget and the purchasing and the policies that were either not in place or not being followed before you?

MS. LYNDS: Well, if you look at the -- the -- it would -- underneath Tim at that point, but if you look at how much is underneath Tim and how much work needed to be done in the department, he didn't have time to even touch any of that. And he -- and too, he didn't have the expertise coming into it, in my opinion. I mean, it was -he didn't have the financial background to -- and definitely not the time, I mean -- so he -- he was -- it was under him on the -- on the organizational chart. They did bring in Erica, the deputy director, back -- and again, I don't -- I didn't look, but I think it was in November of -- of -let's see I was there -- and she would have came back in November of '13. They brought her into to do that, kind of

oversee what I -- what I was doing.

MS. CAPPEL: To oversee the function?

MS. LYNDS: The function of it. However, there were just so many changes with City Hall they had all the accountants and all the people that were doing the work were taken out of this SPD and put down into City Hall. So her job at that point pretty much was trying to coordinate and figure out how to get things done and so process and stuff, because there was a lot of disconnect. There was a lot of things that they took all these people, but they did not take all the functions of what those people were doing.

MS. CAPPEL: Okay.

MS. LYNDS: They left those at SPD so --

MS. CAPPEL: So how did Chief Straub respond generally to you when you would bring these issues to his attention?

MS. LYNDS: He -- he always had lots of -- in my opinion, had lots of respect for me. He always was very open. He never -- he never got upset when I brang him issues. But I also brought him solutions too or what I would perceive as a solution or a couple different solutions. For the most part I feel like he just kind of got in the way and said, okay, you are an expert in this area, or felt that I was -- I'm not sure that I really am, but and kind of just let me do my -- do my thing.

1 MS. CAPPEL: Okay. And it -- it was kind of nice because 2 MS. LYNDS: 3 there was a lot of things coming up that needed addressed. I did not feel like I was being pampered at all. I felt that I had the full on, I guess, support from all of the execs --5 exec team. They were all very supportive. 6 7 MS. CAPPEL: Did you ever have -- you personally 8 ever have an uncomfortable encounter with Chief Straub? 9 MS. LYNDS: No. 10 MS. CAPPEL: That you thought was --11 MS. LYNDS: Not personally, no. No. 12 MS. CAPPEL: Okay. MS. LYNDS: 13 Nope. 14 MS. CAPPEL: Did you personally observe interactions that you saw other people were uncomfortable or 15 16 17 MS. LYNDS: There were times that I saw the 18 demeanor that looked -- they looked uncomfortable, yes. 19 MS. CAPPEL: And were those usually in executive team meetings that you'd see that behavior? 20 21 MS. LYNDS: There was several times I saw it in executive team. 23 MS. CAPPEL: Did you see it outside of an executive team meeting? 24

MS. LYNDS: Yes. Maybe not to the extent, but I

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did see it in meetings. I never saw it on a one-on-one
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          I only saw -- it was in meetings that I saw it.
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   Senior staff meetings. At that point, they had, I think,
   discontinued command staff so they didn't have that anymore.
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   But -- and so senior staff and then also in Com Stat on
   Tuesday mornings. I did witness some uncomfortableness.
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             MS. CAPPEL:
                         And what -- what did you see? What
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   were your observations with respect to Chief Straub?
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             MS. LYNDS:
                         What I saw is that the -- something
   that was said by Chief Straub and then that person kind of
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   just closing down. I mean, and when in other situations
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   this person I've been with would not have shut down and not
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   have said anything. So I guess they -- and again, it's
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have said anything. So I guess they -- and again, it's hearsay, so I don't want to say hearsay, but I think it was from what happened in the past. So I came into the -- unto the situations about halfway through it, so I think there was a lot of things that occurred before me, and again, hearsay, that I think that what I was witnessing was a completely different way that people were responding to his actions at that point.

MS. CAPPEL: Did you -- you're a civilian, right?

MS. LYNDS: Yes.

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MS. CAPPEL: You're not commissioned.

MS. LYNDS: Yes.

MS. CAPPEL: Did you get the sense that he was

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targeting certain people or that certain people bore the
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   brunt of his anger or frustration?
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             MS. LYNDS: He made comments in exec staff that --
   that -- I wouldn't say getting the brunt of it but he made
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   comments that maybe lead to things that he had said happened
   in the past. Again, he said happened in the past or that he
   would make comments on those individual people being and
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   acting in a certain way, maybe -- I wouldn't say derogatory,
 9
   but I would say not -- he would say not very nice things
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   about them.
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             MS. CAPPEL: Were they in the room when --
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             MS. LYNDS:
                         No.
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             MS. CAPPEL: -- he said not very nice things?
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             MS. LYNDS:
                         No.
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             MS. CAPPEL: Do you remember who he was
   identifying?
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             MS. LYNDS:
                         Joey Walker, Brad Arleth he would --
18 l
   had --
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             MS. CAPPEL: Negative things to say about?
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                         Yeah. It wasn't -- it wouldn't be in
             MS. LYNDS:
            It just be a high level -- high level comments.
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   detail.
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             MS. CAPPEL: Anyone else besides Walker and
23
   Arleth?
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             MS. LYNDS: Every once in a while Torok, Dan
   Torok, he would.
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MS. CAPPEL: Anyone else come to mind that he would --

MS. LYNDS: Not -- I'm not sure. There probably was but I can't -- it wasn't -- those were the ones that were seemed to me continue -- comments -- and it's almost like they were snide comments. There weren't really -- it wasn't -- it wasn't in reference to a certain thing that happened, the comments weren't.

MS. CAPPEL: But he was making negative comments about those individuals in front of other staff?

MS. LYNDS: In front of the exec staff, yes.

MS. CAPPEL: Okay.

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MS. LYNDS: I'm not sure about other staff. I didn't witness it from any other staff.

MS. CAPPEL: In terms of the people that were attending executive staff meetings, did you ever feel like he was focusing his negative attention on any particular person?

MS. LYNDS: It seemed like everyone got their own turn. If that's -- it seemed like it was -- if there was an issue, then that was the focus that day. And it seemed that sometimes the way things came across and the issues weren't that big. It seemed like the issues were -- could have been handled in a very different way on a one-on-one, and this is, again, my opinion. It could have been handled before

the meeting even started with a one-on-one, five-minute conversation versus in front of everybody and -- and basically all the rest of us sat there not knowing what to do. Because it was, like, why are -- why are you getting -why are you acting like this because it doesn't -- we didn't feel it warranted -- and I -- I know that the rest of us had 7 talked outside of those meetings and we didn't understand. I mean, we were also very confused.

MS. CAPPEL: Was there anyone who wasn't either bothered or confused by the behavior you just described who is on --

MS. LYNDS: Who wasn't --

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MS. CAPPEL: -- the exec committee?

MS. LYNDS: -- bothered? No. I think we all -all of us were very confused and very -- not understanding what -- what just went on. I mean, it was almost like we would leave -- whoever it was, and normally it was one individual, sometimes there ended up being two individuals that were in -- in the -- I guess under the gun, or whatever it was, and those -- we would all -- but we would all come out looking at each other, like, what just happened? mean, almost -- in the meeting we were almost too shocked to even stand up for the other people or do anything for the other people because we were just, like, yeah. It was very interesting. I've never -- I've been in several meetings

Sarah Lynds March 15, 2016 NDT Assgn # 21084-10 with lots of different people and I've never had quite 1 experiences quite like that. 2 3 MS. CAPPEL: And would you say they were positive experiences or negative experiences? 4 5 MS. LYNDS: Definitely weren't positive experiences. I think they're experiences that -- I mean if 6 7 you have to pick positive or negative, definitely not 8 positive or negative, but I think they were more of a what-9 just-happened type of experience. 10 MS. CAPPEL: Did Chief Straub ever say anything to 11 you personally that you felt was inappropriate? 12 MS. LYNDS: About me or about other people? 13 MS. CAPPEL: Just generally where you thought it was unprofessional or it wasn't consistent with his 14 position? 15 l 16 MS. LYNDS: I would -- to me personally, no. There 17 was one other -- one -- you know, no. I heard other people 18 at some point saying unprofessional things, but that's not him saying it to them, so no. That -- yes, personally to 19 20

me, no.

MS. CAPPEL: Did he use profanity?

MS. LYNDS: Yes.

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MS. CAPPEL: Was it frequent or infrequent?

It was frequent and it was -- I just MS. LYNDS: took it that that was kind of -- after I got used to it -- I

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   didn't think it was professional by any means, but once I
   got used to it I mean, that's -- he's chief so -- I mean.
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             MS. CAPPEL: Did anyone else on the executive
   staff use the kind of profane language that he did?
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             MS. LYNDS:
                         No.
             MS. CAPPEL: Did anyone even come close?
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 7
             MS. LYNDS:
                         Not -- not even close. Every once in
8
   a while someone would say something, but it wasn't --
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             MS. CAPPEL:
                         Did the type of language he used --
   did it trouble or bother you?
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             MS. LYNDS: No. No. I mean, I shouldn't say no.
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   It -- I just -- I felt it was very unprofessional and I
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   wouldn't be using that and I wouldn't be saying that kind of
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   things and it wasn't just in exec staff. It was -- I mean,
   it would be in Com Stat. It would be in other types of
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   meetings so it was just -- I wouldn't myself use that in
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   front of some of the people who were there. So I thought it
   was very unprofessional, but really, I didn't -- I didn't
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   like religiously or -- bother me.
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             MS. CAPPEL: Didn't offend you?
             MS. LYNDS: Didn't offend me because I'm -- it was
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   just, okay, that's just the way he is. I had -- my grandpa
   was like that so it didn't --
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             MS. CAPPEL:
                         So if you would look at this -- this
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outdated org chart that I've given you, and based on the

boxes as they're described, tell me which ones currently fall under you. As far as you know.

MS. LYNDS: So now, basically, that was not there when I was there. I don't even know what that is.

MS. CAPPEL: Director of specialized police services?

when I very first got there, this must be even before Selby got there. Yeah. Oh, it was back when Meidl was even -these two were definitely not in those positions when I was there. It was Cotton was in the PIO, director position
Schwering, and then we had a director of operations who was Rick Dobrow, and then we had a director of investigations who was Selby Smith. So I don't know --

MS. CAPPEL: Okay. So this org chart --

MS. LYNDS: See, investigation is -- yeah, this org chart was way before my time. See, right now, we have this -- or back then, this investigation was here where it was a total different branch at that point.

MS. CAPPEL: Okay. Then I'm not going to go through that exercise. You -- did I give you this letter?

Let's look at a letter that's dated September 18th, 2015.

And it's addressed to Nancy Isserlis. And it's from what appears to be the executive team at the time. Did you have any role in drafting this letter?

1 MS. LYNDS: No.

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letter?

MS. CAPPEL: What's your understanding, if you have one, of what prompted the decision to draft this

MS. LYNDS: We had met, labor management, we had gone to that and they had talked about them creating a letter.

MS. CAPPEL: Who is "they"?

MS. LYNDS: Labor management -- I think -- I'm pretty sure the guild and it was lieutenants and captains association. They had talked about it in that meeting and they were going to put it down on paper. And being supportive of our team, we felt that it was -- at least my understanding, I felt that we were being supportive and also, I guess, making and putting our stuff into writing as well.

MS. CAPPEL: Did you all meet as a team before the letter was drafted?

MS. LYNDS: We had met -- and again, this is pulling back in my brain quite a while ago. We had -- we had met and talked about it and then --

MS. CAPPEL: Just the executive team?

MS. LYNDS: Yes. I believe that it was -- I'm trying to remember the date. I can't remember the date, but we had met and said that we -- that we needed to have a

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letter drawn up. I'm trying to think exactly -- it was a suggestion and I think it was Tim's suggestion that -- that we have a letter drawn up. Again, I'm, again, pulling back into a time that I really don't want to remember at all, but -- so that's where -- so then it was not prompted by me, per se, but I -- I read through it and I said, yep, I will -- I signed this. Yes, and it was by exec team at that point.
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MS. CAPPEL: In the letter itself, it references to a meeting where it says we met with the Mayor and city administrator on September 10, 2015, at their request.

MS. LYNDS: They had requested to have a budget meeting and they had requested that with -- with the exec team. They requested it with the guild. They requested it, I believe -- I don't know if it was the guild and the lieutenants and captains, but they requested it with several different groups across the organization. And that was -- that was their request, that meeting.

MS. CAPPEL: And did you attend the meeting?

MS. LYNDS: Yes.

MS. CAPPEL: Can you describe for me what happened at that meeting?

MS. LYNDS: We went into depth about the budget, what was going -- what the -- the budget of the next year, so what was coming up in 2016. They explained the process. Kind of explained the -- the different things that were

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   going on. What their focuses were on -- going to be in that
   next year. That was a good chunk of the meeting.
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             MS. CAPPEL: Was it just the Mayor and Theresa
   Sanders from the city administration or were there others?
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             MS. LYNDS: I'd have to go back and look at my
   calendar. Honestly, I'm in meetings down there, I would
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   say, ten a week and I don't remember meetings -- I mean, who
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   is at meetings.
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             MS. CAPPEL: Do you recall that they were both
   there?
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             MS. LYNDS: I do recall that they were both there.
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   I'm trying to think if the Mayor had to leave early. I -- he
   has to leave early a lot and so I -- I can't remember if he
13
   had to leave early or not.
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             MS. CAPPEL: Okay. So, yes, you attended the
   meeting on the 10th of September and, yes, the Mayor and
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   Theresa attended and there may have been other --
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             MS. LYNDS: May have been.
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             MS. CAPPEL: -- folks?
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             MS. LYNDS: Yes, I just can't remember on that
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   one.
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             MS. CAPPEL: Right. Right. Was everyone who was
   then on the executive team at that meeting to your
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I believe so. Frank -- Frank was not

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recollection?

MS. LYNDS:

there but everybody else was there.

MS. CAPPEL: Okay So after you discussed the budget for 2016, did the topic switch?

MS. LYNDS: Yeah. They asked us about any -- they did. They kind of asked us how things were going over there with Frank and everything like that. But that was a -- kind of a question that was always brought up at some point. And I wouldn't say just directly by him, but just how things in general were going because of -- there's always been a lot of -- it seems like -- I -- drama. I mean, I don't know how else to say it because -- it's drama like I've never seen in any other organization. And it's not just us, PD, it's City Hall. It seems like there's just a lot of drama that goes on here.

MS. CAPPEL: Okay.

MS. LYNDS: So I think they were trying to get tabs on -- or not tabs -- they're trying to get their take on what was the new drama going on and -- because we're getting a lot -- well, we always have, gotten a lot of public records requests. And it's -- I think part of them is trying to stay ahead of the ball. Or saying, okay, what are we going to have to report on next or what's the next questions that are going to come down the pike.

MS. CAPPEL: And did anyone respond to that invitation of what's going on?

MS. LYNDS: I honestly don't remember all the
details of that meeting. Again, I'm in so many of them that
-- I do know that we talked with them. It wasn't anything - in my opinion, it wasn't anything out of the ordinary.

MS. CAPPEL: So the letter goes on to say that we confirmed the validity of some of the issues that had been raised by the lieutenants and captains, and expressed our own concerns regarding behavior. And it goes on to say we have witnessed multiple instances of communication and management tactics that could constitute a hostile work environment. We believe there is a pattern and practice of inappropriate behavior and we confirmed the concerns of the members of the lieutenants and captains association.

And then it goes on, we have witnessed or experienced -- and then there's this bullet list. Did those topics come up with the Mayor and Theresa on September 10th to your recollection?

MS. LYNDS: If you're saying just the bullet points, I would say those -- I mean, we didn't go, yes, he's personally attacking, the scare tactics, all -- we didn't go through the bullet points, per se. But we -- I mean, it's always -- in my opinion, it's kind of been a well-known thing of his, his -- the way he was. At least I thought it was -- at least internally it was, very much so. I do feel that they had -- they were aware of it. I did -- we did see

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at one point a change -- I thought I saw a change in Frank's
-- the way he was acting at one point, and I don't know
where that came from but, again, I can't say for sure that
it was a change.
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So I -- I think that they were aware of it and that these things did -- yeah, we did voice our concerns about his -- about his behavior. But again, in my opinion, that was -- it was just an open door -- this is an issue. We think that there's an issue going on.

MS. CAPPEL: Had you been in meetings with the Mayor and Theresa before September 10th where there was criticism of Straub, where people had raised their concern about him?

MS. LYNDS: You mean, when I was in the -- with those two?

MS. CAPPEL: Where they were also participants in a meeting?

MS. LYNDS: There was -- before that, Tim

Schwering and I had -- we met with Theresa on a biweekly

basis. And there was times that we did raise -- raised

issues. Not necessarily direct issues, but just saying, you

know, there's things going on that we feel are not

appropriate. And, you know, there might have been some that

we actually gave direct examples on. Again, I -- there's so

many things that happened that it's -- I can't pinpoint

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  exactly what we said. But I -- I feel that -- but that
  wasn't with the Mayor. That was just with Theresa.
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  I feel that before we -- I feel that we did voice, in some
  respects, what was going on over there and I -- and that's
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  where one case I do -- I do feel that they -- they knew what
  -- I don't know the extent if they -- if they did. Again,
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  hearsay. I've heard that people were telling them things
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  but that's just hearsay. I don't --
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MS. CAPPEL: Have you been meeting with Theresa on a biweekly basis since you were hired?

MS. LYNDS: No.

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MS. CAPPEL: When did that start?

MS. LYNDS: That started -- oh, goodness gracious. I would meet with her on a monthly basis on budget items.

MS. CAPPEL: Just you or with Tim?

MS. LYNDS: Just -- no, we -- we decided that we wanted to have two people down at City Hall, just so we could always -- just in case something was said that we weren't sure of, we wanted to bounce each other -- ideas off of each other. Or not ideas, but just, hey, did you hear this? Did you hear that? Because we -- we'd had some instances where things were said and it was not what we thought we had heard. So we just --

MS. CAPPEL: So when you were meeting with her monthly, was it just -- was it you and Tim?

MS. LYNDS: At first -- there was a couple times

where it was just me, but Straub did not want me going down

there by myself to meet with them, he wanted to have

somebody else. So that's when I pulled Tim in and he

started attending those as well.

MS. CAPPEL: And can you place in time when it went from monthly to biweekly?

MS. LYNDS: I think it was May'ish of '15. It might have been -- I can't remember the exact time but it was May or June. It might have even been April. It was sometime in that -- but they -- they went to biweekly at that point.

MS. CAPPEL: Was there anyone else who would attend the meetings with you and Tim?

MS. LYNDS: It was -- it was just us three. Every once in a while, the Mayor might poke his head in and say, hey, how are you doing, and we'd talk about some side -- side -- you know, something. There was a couple times that -- I mean, she's busy so she's going to have people poking her head in. And Nancy, I think, popped in a couple times, but we're talking several, you know, a lot of meetings so -- and we usually met -- tried to meet either later in the day so that there wouldn't be as many interruptions so --

MS. CAPPEL: And so through the course of these scheduled meetings with Theresa, on more than one occasion,

you and Tim would share some of the issues and concerns about Straub's behavior or things that he was doing?

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3 Yeah. MS. LYNDS: Yes. I mean, I think that was part of -- we felt that the -- him and I came from the out -5 - you know, civilians. We came from the outside and we were fairly new. Well, we were new. We weren't vested, per se, 7 in the organization. We -- I feel that we felt that there 8 wasn't a voice that -- that -- from the police department. So we kind of felt like we were trying to relay what was 9 going on over there so that we could be the voice, I quess, 10 11 if that's the right terminology. So that was kind of our --12 and we did it together again so that we could bound -- you 13 know, is that what was -- you know, was that said, yes. 14 And, you know, and --

MS. CAPPEL: How did Theresa respond when you would raise these issues with her?

MS. LYNDS: She was very -- I mean, she -legitimately, I mean, she add legitimate -- she acted like
she really listened. Well, obviously she listened, she felt
that she was very responsive to me in the way she -- her
responses were.

MS. CAPPEL: What would she say?

MS. LYNDS: She would -- I mean, she would never say what she was planning to do or what they were planning to do. I don't think that's really their -- her, I guess,

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at that point wouldn't be her role because she can't -- I
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   don't think she should have made a decision then.
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   she should, you know, go get whatever she needed to do,
   council or talk to the Mayor, whatever she needs to do.
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             So she would just, basically, not agree, but you
   know, listen to us and take it in and then -- and then -- I
 6
   can't remember what her verbal response was, but I felt that
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   she was listening to us, if that makes sense. Like -- not
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   like she was just disown -- you know, discrediting us and
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   not --
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             MS. CAPPEL: Did she ever say whether she was
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   going to follow up specifically on anything that you raised
   as an issue?
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             MS. LYNDS:
                         I don't think that was some -- not
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   that I remember. I don't -- it wasn't like anything -- we
   weren't looking for that. We were looking for -- this is --
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   we want to just -- someone -- you know, we want someone --
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   this to be heard on behalf of the SPD.
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             MS. CAPPEL: Did -- did she take notes in --
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             MS. LYNDS:
                         No.
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             MS. CAPPEL: -- these meetings?
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             MS. LYNDS:
                         No.
                              No.
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             MS. CAPPEL: Do you know whether that was on
24
   purpose or --
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And --

No.

MS. LYNDS:

MS. CAPPEL: -- was that just her practice?

MS. LYNDS: No. In any meetings that I've ever been with her, there's been very few times that she's taken notes. If it was, it was a technical type -- where, like, let's say we're talking about the -- and I'm just throwing out an example because I don't -- she probably didn't at this one -- but it's like at the community college, if we're going to build a building down there, you know, a name of who to call or something. You know, it wasn't -- and you know, very few people that I've seen taken notes. That I have seen, at least, down at City Hall.

MS. CAPPEL: Okay. In discussing some concerns, the concerns that you had with Theresa, did you -- if you recall, ever use language to describe it such as harassment, retaliation, discrimination, bullying?

MS. LYNDS: Retaliation and bullying.

MS. CAPPEL: Did come up with Theresa?

MS. LYNDS: I -- I know -- I believe that those ones did come up. And I -- and I can't remember when it would have been. I think it was towards -- more towards the end of the -- of -- towards the end of this is when those started coming up. I'm trying to think. What was the other one you said? It was --

MS. CAPPEL: Harassment.

MS. LYNDS: I don't know if I specifically

remember that one coming up, but it was kind of -- in my

opinion, it was kind of part of the whole deal. Because

bullying to me is kind of the same thing as harassment. Not

completely the same thing, but it's -- to me it's one kind

of tied together.

MS. CAPPEL: And how about discrimination? Where you were talking about you thought someone was being treated differently because of a certain characteristic?

MS. LYNDS: I -- did that ever come up directly
with her? I don't -- no, nothing was talked about
internally with SPD.

MS. CAPPEL: Discrimination?

MS. LYNDS: Yeah. Yeah. Not -- the word wasn't used, but we talked about different treatment -- the way different people were treated for sure. I don't know that actually ever came up with Theresa, but I know internally we talked about that.

MS. CAPPEL: In the discussions with Theresa, did she ever give any sense of whether she was going to follow up with law on any of the concerns --

MS. LYNDS: No.

MS. CAPPEL: You raised?

MS. LYNDS: I didn't hear any -- that part wasn't ever really discussed what she was going to do afterwards.

It was just -- I felt like she was just listening, you know,

and it wasn't like, okay, now I'm going to do this and this and this. Not that I -- again, not that I remember. But that -- so we met so many times, like, I -- maybe once it happened I -- again, I don't --

MS. CAPPEL: Do you know if the Chief met with Theresa on a regular basis?

MS. LYNDS: I think on -- I think, and this is from what I -- but I don't know if it was the whole time I was there but I know after cabinet on Tuesdays, he was meeting with her. I know at least towards the end of it he -- I'm not sure about the beginning because I never really asked and cabinet on Tuesdays at 9. Other than that, I don't know if that, again, was new, because I didn't pay attention at first to his schedule at all and -- and didn't even really ask. Because they didn't start -- in my opinion, it didn't start getting intense meetings with Theresa until we started being on biweekly basis. Before that, it was like once a month and we were going over -- okay, we're way over budget and overtime. And it was pretty much the conversation was just about budget stuff.

MS. CAPPEL: Did you personally ever meet with the Mayor to talk about any issues or concerns with Straub?

well, when we knew -- we felt that he was too -- too busy
with his own schedule and we felt that -- really felt that

she was the one to -- I felt that was her role to gather 1 2 stuff, figure it out and then present that to him. Similar 3 to like what a AC would do. They would hear the problem. Go figure it out and then present it to the Chief of what the 5 solution or facts of findings. 6 MS. CAPPEL: How about any meetings with anyone 7 from HR about concerns or issues with Straub? 8 MS. LYNDS: With -- before he was -- or before 9 whatever he -- he gave his resignation or whatever it ended up being? Because I've heard so many things gone around. 10 11 Not me, specifically, no. 12 MS. CAPPEL: Did anyone from HR reach out for you personally with questions about Straub and --13 I 14 MS. LYNDS: No. 15 MS. CAPPEL: -- his behavior? Who did you understand were the HR folks assigned to PD? Do you know? 16 l 17 MS. LYNDS: Oh, goodness gracious. Gita, I think 18 was at first. You know, it changed part way through but I believe Heather Low is the one that -- is the one that is 19 over HR. I think she's --20 21 MS. CAPPEL: I think she's the director. 22 MS. LYNDS: I think she's the --

one that -- that -- I know she came in -- was it in June? I

Right. And then I know Meghan, the

MS. CAPPEL: She's the director.

MS. LYNDS:

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1
   mean, I don't know when she started, but I know that she was
   part of doing -- and she's civil service or HR. I think
 2
 3
   she's HR. Yeah, she's HR, Meghan is. But she didn't come
   in until -- again, like I said, midway through my tenure
 5
   there so.
 6
             MS. CAPPEL: How about Mary Muramatsu?
 7
             MS. LYNDS:
                         She's legal for SPD.
8
             MS. CAPPEL: Did -- since you've started at PD,
9
   did Gita attend any of the executive team meetings?
10
                         Not since I've been there, no. Gita or
             MS. LYNDS:
11
   Mary?
12
             MS. CAPPEL:
                         Gita.
13
             MS. LYNDS:
                         No. Huh-uh.
14
             MS. CAPPEL: I'll get to Mary but -- did she
   attend the senior staff meetings?
15
16
             MS. LYNDS: Gita? No.
17
             MS. CAPPEL: How about the Com Stat meetings?
18
             MS. LYNDS: Was she ever there? I don't think I
   ever saw her but three was opened Com Stat and so I -- the
   Mayor would come quite frequently. Mary was there.
20
21
   think Gita was ever there.
22
             MS. CAPPEL: Did Mary attend executive --
23
             MS. LYNDS:
                         No.
24
             MS. CAPPEL: How about the senior staff meetings?
25
             MS. LYNDS: Was she at those ones? I think she --
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1
   no, I don't think she was. She was at Com Stat.
                                                      I think
   she might have gone to a few of them, but I don't think it
 2
 3
   was like a regular invite type of meeting.
 4
             MS. CAPPEL: At Com Stat or the senior --
 5
             MS. LYNDS:
                         The senior staff.
 6
             MS. CAPPEL: And how about Heather? Did Heather
 7
   ever go to executive team or senior staff meetings?
 8
             MS. LYNDS: Executive, no, definitely not. Senior
 9
   staff, I think they invited her one time to come and talk
10
   about issues -- or not issues, but, like, policies and
11
   stuff. But it wasn't like she was on regular basis to come
12
   in there, no. And Com Stat, I don't remember ever seeing
   her there either.
13
14
             MS. CAPPEL: Did anyone from the legal department,
   putting Mary aside, ever try to contact you to ask questions
15 l
16
   about how Chief Straub was doing?
17
             MS. CAPPEL: No. Before -- before he was not
18
   there?
19
             MS. CAPPEL:
                          Yeah.
20
             MS. LYNDS:
                         No, huh-uh.
21
             MS. CAPPEL: How about Nancy Isserlis, did she
22
   ever contact you?
23
             MS. LYNDS:
                         No.
24
             MS. CAPPEL: Erin Jacobson?
25
             MS. LYNDS:
                         Nope.
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1
             MS. CAPPEL: So back to this letter of September
   18th, do you know why it was decided to send it to Nancy?
2
 3
                         I honestly don't know why. I -- that
             MS. LYNDS:
   was something that -- I -- being on the financial end of
 5
   things, Tim being on -- coming from the outside, legal type
   -- or I think he's a defense prosecutor, I felt that they
 6
7
   knew best. They knew what they were doing. So I was, like,
8
   okay, that's -- I'm not going to question it.
 9
             MS. CAPPEL: And how about the same with using the
   confidential attorney-client privilege --
10 l
11
             MS. LYNDS: I honestly don't even know what that
12
   means.
13
             MS. CAPPEL: Okay. Did you offer any revisions or
   edits --
14
15
             MS. LYNDS:
                         No.
16
             MS. CAPPEL: -- to the letter?
             MS. LYNDS:
17
                         Nope.
18
             MS. CAPPEL: Was there anything in this letter
   that you personally are uncomfortable with or disagree with?
20
             MS. LYNDS:
                         No.
                              No. Because I read through it
   when we did it and it was at a time when -- that --
21
   especially going through the bullet points, I had seen all
   that stuff. So, yeah, no. I don't -- there's nothing that
23
24
   I look at that's -- or else I hope I wouldn't have signed
25
   it.
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1
             MS. CAPPEL:
                         You said that you think you
   personally observed this behavior that's described. For
 2
 3
   instance, threats regarding our employment and position. Did
   you hear him make threats against someone's employment?
 5
             MS. LYNDS:
                         I know I did. I'm trying to recall
   when it was. Because when I went through this letter at
 6
7
   that point, there was definitely in my mind, yes, I know.
8
   You know, there was -- and I keep going back, there was so
   many things that happened that -- that a lot of them were
 9
   all -- you know, it covered multiple of these things.
10
11
             MS. CAPPEL: How about untruthfulness?
12
   have any experiences yourself with --
13
                         Oh. Actually, now I do know exactly
             MS. LYNDS:
14
   what that one is for, yes.
15
             MS. CAPPEL: Which one?
16
             MS. LYNDS:
                         The threats regarding our employment.
                 CAPPEL: And what does that refer to?
17
18
             MS. LYNDS:
                         It was in one of our exec meetings and
19
   he had put a piece of paper right on the table that was from
20
   somebody back east, and he was basically saying -- and this
   is when I very first started in the exec team. Something
21
   referring to his past job that he had and something about
22
   that if we -- and I, again, don't --
23
24
             MS. CAPPEL: That's all right. I know I'm asking
   for a lot.
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MS. LYNDS: And we did feel like our jobs were threatened at that point because it was basically, this could happen to you if you guys -- and, again, that was when I very first started so I'm trying to remember exactly everything. But I did - -I do remember that at that point in that meeting we did -- we're like -- after that meeting, again, we walked out going, what the heck? And he asked for all the papers back, we couldn't take them with us.

MS. CAPPEL: What -- he had handed something out?

MS. LYNDS: It was an email. It was an email that

he had printed out and that -- and honestly, when that was going on, I was so new in the group that I was just looking kind of going, what the heck is going on here? So I didn't even -- I don't remember what -- it was from -- an email from someone back east regarding his past job and what they were doing to him now legally. Anyways, he basically was saying you guys need to watch your rears because this could happen to you if you -- whatever it was. But we did feel like our jobs were threatened at that point.

MS. CAPPEL: How about on the issue of untruthfulness, did you personally experience that? It's on the next page.

MS. LYNDS: I feel like -- yes, oh, definitely. I feel that -- yeah, those things that he said that were untruthful about people and it kind of goes right down into

the next one, misrepresentation, untruthfulness.

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MS. CAPPEL: And what do you recall about those two areas?

MS. LYNDS: I know in a execs -- was it exec staff or was it a -- I think it might have been -- even been an inservice -- because I had to go -- at one point I had to go to every inservice that they had. That he had said that the City -- and I don't -- again, I can't remember exactly what meeting it was in, but he had said that City Hall, they didn't -- that the Mayor -- or that Theresa was from a rich -- somehow a -- not -- maybe not a rich family, but had money and didn't need -- didn't need the job and that she didn't give -- I won't cuss, but she -- he said a couple bad words and that the Mayor didn't care about -- basically, that they didn't -- they didn't care about us at all. Like, our personal, they don't care if you do -- you know, if you have to work 40 hours a week -- and I'm just going make an example -- but he was basically making us feel like they didn't have anything -- they didn't want the best for SPD. They were only out for themselves, basically.

MS. CAPPEL: Okay. After the meeting -- actually, did you learn that this letter was eventually sent to the city attorney?

MS. LYNDS: I -- well, when I was signing it, yes, that's what we were -- I figure that that's where it was

going.

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Yeah. Did any -- did Theresa or the MS. CAPPEL: Mayor meet with you personally, again, after you signed the September 18th letter to talk about Straub?

MS. LYNDS: Oh, when was -- so September r-- I'd have to pull up my calendar or my phone to see what day that was so I can see.

MS. CAPPEL: It would have been a Friday.

MS. LYNDS: A Friday. And then he was met with on Monday morning that same --

MS. CAPPEL: I think the press conference announcing his resignation was the Tuesday.

> MS. LYNDS: Tuesday.

MS. CAPPEL: The 22nd.

MS. LYNDS: So, no. If this was Friday and that -- not in between. No. 16 l No.

MS. CAPPEL: Did they meet with you afterwards to 18 talk about the circumstances o him --

MS. LYNDS: About him leaving? Well, we still were doing our biweekly meetings so, yes. I mean, it wasn't a special -- well, did they call us all together? We might have just brought everybody to that meeting after that. know that Tim and I were still meeting on the biweekly basis, so, yes, we would have met and, of course, that topic would have came up.

1 MS. CAPPEL: Okay. Do you recall in what context it came up with Theresa after Straub had left the 2 3 department? 4 MS. LYNDS: You mean like what was said? 5 MS. CAPPEL: Uh-huh. 6 MS. LYNDS: Besides the fact of -- well, and 7 Dobrow was also there. Dobrow apparently was outside 8 security-wise when they were talking, so we knew that -because, of course, where Dobrow was talking to us, that 9 they were going to be talking to him on Monday morning. 10 11 we knew what was going on behind the scenes. We didn't know 12 what was going to go on. We didn't know -- they didn't tell 13 us what they were going to do at that meeting. We had no 14 clue. Or what was going to go on at that meeting. 15 did -- we did know they were meeting. We were very nervous. 16 MS. CAPPEL: When you say "we" is that you and 17 Tim? 18 MS. LYNDS: Tim and Selby and Rick. I mean, Rick 19 was down there, but we were all, you know, communicating. We were all very nervous because we didn't know how Straub 20 would react or -- and, again, we didn't know what's going to 21 22 be said so -- but we knew something was going on. 23

MS. CAPPEL: Okay. Okay. I'm going to change subjects. Give me that letter back. Thank you.

Did you -- did you know or learn at some point

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that Monique was going to transfer to parks?

MS. LYNDS: Yes.

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MS. CAPPEL: Do you recall how you learned that?

MS. LYNDS: How did I learn that? I'm trying to think. It was such a -- it was so interesting how it all kind of happened. Well, I didn't find out -- I'm wondering I have to think on this one because I've heard so -- huh. many, like, different things after the fact of, like, okay, so I know she came into the office, but then she was just missing. She was missing in action for like a couple days, like, a week I think it was. She wasn't there. Nobody knew where she was at. Well, at least I didn't. I didn't ask because, you know, she could have been on vacation, who But it was just -- it was odd. It was -- it was different. And then-- I'm trying to think if it was -- so she, since she had been missing of course it came up at, I think, at our two week -- one f our two-week meetings. Going, hey, what's going on with Monique? Because we've noticed that she's not there.

And I don't know -- I don't think that -- I'm thinking that Theresa might have said, well, we're working on it at that point or we're trying to take care of it at that point. Didn't give us any detail to know about for sure. But I do believe that Frank was the one that ended up telling us that she was being transferred out and

transferred into City Hall. But it seemed like it was like a two week -- I mean, it was quite a while that it was a what's-going-on-here type of a thing.

MS. CAPPEL: And you mentioned that Straub was the one that told you.

MS. LYNDS: I'm -- I'm -- again, I know he told us at one point, but I can't remember if he was the first one that told us. I'm pretty sure that he was, though.

MS. CAPPEL: Do you remember any details that he shared with you why she was transferring?

MS. LYNDS: No. I mean, everyone knew the situation, what had happened. Anyways the one out of -- out of investigations. Everyone knew that there was a situation that happened and that we -- all we thought that that must be what it was from. And we didn't -- but we did not know what had been done or said and why she was -- and I mean, we didn't even know who -- if she had talked to somebody or -- we knew -- we knew we had heard and I -- don't want to say hearsay, but I heard -- I heard that people were going down to -- City Hall to talk to people and that's -- I assumed that that was why she was being transferred.

MS. CAPPEL: And the situation, what are -- what situation are you referring to?

MS. LYNDS: I wasn't there so I can't speak on to what was done or said, but, again, hearsay, I've heard --

I've heard things happened so --

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MS. CAPPEL: Can you -- I mean, just so we can figure out what it is you think led to her transfer. Was it some kind of blowup or --

MS. LYNDS: A blowup out at investigations between-- and Frank was there and several other individuals thatwould be much better at telling what actually happened.

MS. CAPPEL: Yeah. But whatever happened at that blowup, it traveled throughout the department, is that --

MS. LYNDS: Oh, yes. Rapidly.

MS. CAPPEL: Okay.

MS. LYNDS: Rapidly.

MS. CAPPEL: Okay. And no one said that what you assume that blowup had something to do with transferring Monique out of the police department?

MS. LYNDS: I do believe that it did just because of the circumstances and the -- what happened and then it was just coincidental, put it that way.

MS. CAPPEL: Did Monique ever talk to you about her decision to leave the department?

MS. LYNDS: No. No. She -- in fact, I don't know if she talked to anyone because she was kind of missing in action there for awhile. It was just kind of where did she go? She was gone so --

MS. CAPPEL And had you ever observed any

interactions between she and the Chief that you thought he was being inappropriate with her?

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3 MS. LYNDS: There was -- I mean, in exec staff, sometimes there was a -- I felt that he was -- I almost feel 5 like he was two-sided with her. Like, either really overcompensatingly nice, bending over backwards to do 6 7 anything. Sometimes very unreasonable, in my opinion, on 8 things. But on the same side it was like, there would be --I don't want to use the word "blowup," but it kind of -- it 9 was a mini blowup, put it that way, at her over things, 10 again, that were like what I was talking about before that 11 12 were -- not -- why did you blow up like that? It did not -didn't warrant it. 13 l

MS. CAPPEL: Seemed disproportionate?

MS. LYNDS: Dis -- but that's something that I saw across -- it happened to everyone so it wasn't unusual to me.

MS. CAPPEL: Okay. Did you ever observe the Chief touch any of his female staff in a way that you thought crossed professional boundaries?

MS. LYNDS: No.

MS. CAPPEL: Have any of the women in the department shared with you that they felt like he behaved inappropriately with them?

MS. LYNDS: No.

MS. CAPPEL: Bear with me.

MS. LYNDS: Okay.

13 I

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MS. CAPPEL: I'm sorry to jump around like this, but I want to go back to that meeting on the 10th of September with the Mayor and Theresa. Do you recall whether Monique's name came up in any way, shape, or form at that meeting?

MS. LYNDS: I don't think it did. I don't -- no.

I don't think so. I don't know why it would, put it that
way, because it would have been months and she had already
been transferred out.

MS. CAPPEL: And does the name Carly Cortright mean anything to you?

MS. LYNDS: I know that she was gone before I got there, but I do know that she worked downtown. I've had meetings with her since on other issues. When I very first started, she did -- she was helpful in some of the -- the areas if I had a -- you know, very few questions I'd ask her but there was some. And she was very, very polite and very helpful. Never -- never felt -- once I found out what had happened, I would have never guessed anything was wrong, like, when she was first talking with me and helping me at the very beginning. I would have never known. Hearsay, about what I heard later was what had ever occurred.

MS. CAPPEL: And did Straub ever mention Carly in

1 any way, shape, or form with you? 2 MS. LYNDS: Yes. 3 MS. CAPPEL: And what did he say about her? 4 MS. LYNDS: He -- he referred to her figure in a, 5 my opinion, disrespectful way. 6 MS. CAPPEL: Can you remember the context of him 7 talking about that? 8 MS. LYNDS: You mean, what led up to that? MS. CAPPEL: Uh-huh. 9 10 MS. LYNDS: We were talking about budget stuff and there -- I believe that there were two other individuals in 11 12 the -- and it was kind of in the hallway setting. It wasn't a meeting, per se, it was a hallway setting. We were 13 14 talking, just throwing out some type of budget something issue that I had come across, and he made reference to her 15 kind of being in that role before. Not -- not necessarily 16 in the same role because she had a different -- totally 17 18 different -- I guess that org chart was way more different than people were -- and so it kind of was just a reference 20 to her and not -- not doing what I was doing. Like -- and 21 then that -- that comment came out after that. 22 MS. CAPPEL: Where he commented on her figure? 23 MS. LYNDS: Yes. Yes.

MS. CAPPEL: In disparaging ways?

Yes.

MS. LYNDS:

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             MS. CAPPEL: Did he use any vulgarity to describe
   her or profanity?
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             MS. LYNDS:
                         Yes.
 4
             MS. CAPPEL: Can you maybe write -- if you're not
 5
   comfortable saying it, can you just write it down for me?
 6
             MS. LYNDS: Right here?
 7
             MS. CAPPEL:
                         Uh-huh.
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             MS. LYNDS:
                         (Complies.)
 9
             MS. CAPPEL: Did he use that term more than once?
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             MS. LYNDS:
                         That was the only person I ever heard
11
   him use that term with. And I -- I know that was for sure
12
   that time, but I think it was only once -- there might have
   been another time, but I know for sure it was that.
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14
             MS. CAPPEL: And I'm sorry, I think you just said
15
   that -- you said that word you wrote down, you only heard
   him use in reference to Carly?
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17
             MS. LYNDS:
                         Yeah. And I never heard him use that
18
   reference to any other -- any other woman or man.
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             MS. CAPPEL: Did he talk about the circumstances
   of her leaving the department?
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21
                         No, he didn't actually. Directly to
             MS. LYNDS:
            Other people kind of clued me in. And again, this
   was probably before I started I didn't even know -- getting
23
   in to this situation -- I would say I was in the blind for
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the first four months, and then all of a sudden it was just

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a -- this is wow. It was like, oh, wow. And so then other
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   people kind of did fill me in. But it wasn't all at once.
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   It was kind of more of a leading up to it so --
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             MS. CAPPEL: And who in the department was
 5
   familiar with that -- with those circumstances?
 6
             MS. LYNDS: You know what, I don't know because
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   when I got there, I think she was already gone before Tim
8
   got there, before Selby got there, before Rick was in his
   position, I believe. I believe that she, I think, was
 9
   already out of the picture. So anybody that I had known --
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   you know associated with at the exec level I don't believe
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12
   was in that same level or was in that level when she was I
13
   quess transferred out.
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             MS. CAPPEL: Well, were there non-executive
15
   employees who were sharing with you what they thought had
16
   happened to Carly?
17
             MS. LYNDS: I -- you know, Erica had made some
18 l
   comments. I don't think she ever really knew the whole
19
   thing either. I mean, I don't think she did know what was
20
   really going on. She just -- she was, again, in that
   position just to transfer people, you know.
21
22
             MS. CAPPEL: How -- is there someone named Jason
   Franklin that you're familiar with?
23
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-- I do know him. I think he transferred out to property, I

You know, I've never -- -- I've never

MS. LYNDS:

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believe -- yeah, property. I've never -- I might have seen him out at property before but I didn't even realize until maybe eight months ago that he was even over there ever and that he transferred out.

MS. CAPPEL: Transferred out of where?

MS. LYNDS: Out of -- I guess finance is what I heard he was in.

MS. CAPPEL: To property?

MS. LYNDS: So when this -- when this all started coming up is when I started learning about all this before that. Before I was just barely -- buried in work. I'm trying to fix things.

MS. CAPPEL: And some of the things that you've learned after the fact, is that through the media?

MS. LYNDS: Actually, yes, some of it has been through the media, through public records requests that we've had to dig up. And then -- and really, you know, I'm not -- I've never been someone to dig into the past too much, and that's probably why because I'm not -- I don't like gossip. I don't like to -- I don't know, talk about things that are not any of my business so I never really dug into things.

I think if I would have, I would have definitely known this stuff way before that but -- maybe I should have.

MS. CAPPEL: Did you receive notice of various

1 public records requests that were coming into the City? 2 MS. LYNDS: Oh, yes. I -- I'm pretty much cc'd on 3 all the public records requests. 4 MS. CAPPEL: And is that because of your position? 5 MS. LYNDS: Yeah. 6 MS. CAPPEL: And what do you do when you get a 7 public records request? 8 MS. LYNDS: Normally I read through them to see if 9 anything is related to finance and if there's anything my group needs to gather or provide. And then also I look -- I 10 always look at the cc list or the "TO" list to make sure 11 12 that if -- if -- who I thought that should be directed to if that went to that person. 13 MS. CAPPEL: And do you remember receiving public 14 15 l records requests specifically about Straub and Cotton? MS. LYNDS: Not to them. 16 17 MS. CAPPEL: And do you recall if you or people in 18 your area of supervision had documents that were responsive? 19 MS. LYNDS: Not that I -- I'm trying to think. Not that I know of. I mean, huh-uh, there wouldn't have been 20 any financial-type things. Well, there might have -- I 21 think -- what did they request one time? They asked the question -- did they request Cotton's spending on something? 23

I don't think so. It wouldn't have been related to those

two, though. Because they were mostly -- all it was that

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   came through that I -- most of them I saw were like phone
   records and notes on things and stuff like that, which we --
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   none of -- at least that I know of, nobody from my group
   remitted -- or at least told me that they remitted.
 5
             MS. CAPPEL: And did you have any notes of any of
   your meetings with Straub or with -- let me get it --
 6
 7
   Theresa on the subject of Monique or --
8
                         No. I really didn't write down
             MS. LYNDS:
 9
   anything. I'm not someone -- normally I write down notes if
   it's going to be, it's something I've got to follow up on or
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   something I need to remember. Those are the types of things
12
   I -- I need to remember.
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             MS. CAPPEL: Did anybody request your phone to
14
   extract --
15
             No.
16
             MS. CAPPEL: -- any information from your phone?
17
             MS. LYNDS:
                         No.
18
             MS. CAPPEL: Do you know if anyone under your
19
   supervision was asked to surrender their phone?
20
             MS. LYNDS:
                         I don't think anyone else has a phone
   in there. Well, at least they didn't. They don't now.
21
22
   Erica used to and then when she changed to be an Accountant
   II, that was about the time that we said, you don't need a
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phone anymore. They can -- if they need something, they'll

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come through me.

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MS. CAPPEL: Okay. Did Chief Straub ever say
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   anything in your presence indicating that he had any kind of
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   interest in pursuing some kind of relationship with
   Monique?
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             MS. LYNDS: Verbally? No. I would -- he never
 6
   said anything.
 7
             MS. CAPPEL: Did you see anything that looked like
8
  he had that interest?
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             MS. LYNDS: There's a lot of hearsay out there.
   Let's put it that way, of what happened -- things that
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11
   occurred that I was not present nor -- of what happened.
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   I -- I never saw anything that I thought was weird besides
   the special treatment on certain things that I thought was
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14
   very unusual. And also, learning how she got to the
   position that she was at. I thought that was very unusual.
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             MS. CAPPEL: But you never personally saw him
  being overly, you know, touchy or --
17 I
             MS. LYNDS: No.
18
                              Nope.
19
             MS. CAPPEL: -- anything like that with her?
20
             MS. LYNDS: Not at all.
21
             MS. CAPPEL: Did you ever learn that they had
22
   socialized outside of work?
23
             MS. LYNDS: Hearsay I heard that.
24
             MS. CAPPEL: All right. But you --
25
             MS. LYNDS:
                         I never saw it.
                                          I never saw it. I
```

never witnessed it. I never --

MS. CAPPEL: Okay.

MS. LYNDS: No. We did go to -- all of us went to a Christmas party over at his house but that was all of the exec staff so I would consider that outside of work, but it's not unusual.

MS. CAPPEL: Did you ever learn that Monique had moved to City Hall for any period of time around December of 2014?

MS. LYNDS: She did move down -- as far as I know, she did move down there for a while because she was on the seventh -- I think she was on the seventh floor. She was down there and she was doing -- what I was told is she was doing the -- both police and fire PIOs stuff at that point.

MS. CAPPEL: And did that come from Straub?

MS. LYNDS: You know, I don't know exactly where that was derived from. I just -- it was -- again, she was just all of the sudden missing out of her office, kind of like the first time. And she was moved down there and that's what we were -- that's what I was told. I didn't question it because it was -- okay. Makes sense. It's public safety and it makes sense that a lot of the times we saw them do the same things so --

MS. CAPPEL: Okay. Sarah, I think I'm finished.

Do you have any questions of me or any last thoughts you

```
1
   want to share?
 2
             MS. LYNDS: No, I don't think so.
 3
             MS. CAPPEL: All right. So we'll go off the
 4
   record.
 5
              THE REPORTER: Thank you. The time is 3:22 p.m.
 6
   We are off record.
 7
              Counsel, you would like a copy, of course?
 8
             MS. CAPPEL: Yes, please.
 9
              (Whereupon, the interview of Sarah Lynds concluded
10
   at 3:22 p.m.)
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
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1	CERTIFICATE
2	
3	I, Erin Evelyn Barnhill, do hereby certify
4	that I reported all proceedings adduced in the foregoing
5	matter and that the foregoing transcript pages constitutes
6	a full, true and accurate record of said proceedings to
7	the best of my ability.
8	
9	I further certify that I am neither related
10	to counsel or any party to the proceedings nor have any
11	interest in the outcome of the proceedings.
12	
13	IN WITNESS HEREOF, I have hereunto set my
14	hand this 28th day of March, 2016.
15	
16	Drin Derolyn transfell
17	
18	
19	Erin Evelyn Barnhill
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

1	CORRECTION SHEET						
2	Deposition of: Sarah Lynds Date: 3/15/16						
3	Regarding: Frank Straub						
4	Reporter: Barnhill/McLain						
5							
6	Please make all corrections, changes or clarifications						
7	to your testimony on this sheet, showing page and line						
8	number. If there are no changes, write "none" across						
9	the page. Sign this sheet on the line provided.						
LO	Page Line Reason for Change						
11							
L2							
13							
L 4							
15							
16							
L7							
18							
L 9							
20							
21							
22							
23							
24	Signature						
25	Sarah Lynds						



1	DECLARATION				
2	Deposition of: Sarah Lynds Date: 3/15/16				
3	Regarding: Frank Straub				
4	Reporter: Barnhill/McLain				
5					
6					
7	I declare under penalty of perjury the following to				
8	be true:				
9					
10	I have read my deposition and the same is true and				
11	accurate save and except for any corrections as made				
12	by me on the Correction Page herein.				
13					
14	Signed at,,				
15	on the, 2016.				
16					
17					
18					
19					
20					
21					
22					
23					
24	Signature				
25	Sarah Lynds				

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