## In the Matter Of:

## HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA

5:18-CV-00555-XR

## **MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES**

January 09, 2020



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1	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR
2	THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS SAN ANTONIO DIVISION
3	JOE HOLCOMBE, et al. ) NO. 5:18-CV-00555-XR
4	Plaintiffs, ) Consolidated with: ) 5:18-cv-00712-XR (Vidal)
5	) 5:18-cv-00881-XR (Uhl)
6	vs. ) 5:18-cv-00944-XR (Ramsey) ) 5:18-cv-00949-XR (McNulty)
7	) 5:18-cv-00951-XR (Wall) UNITED STATES OF ) 5:18-cv-01151-XR (Amador) AMERICA, ) 5:19-cv-00184-XR (Brown)
8	Defendants. ) 5:19-cv-00289-XR (Ward) 5:19-cv-00506-XR (Workman)
9	) 5:19-cv-00678-XR (Workman) ) 5:19-cv-00678-XR (Colbath) 5:19-cv-00691-XR (Braden)
10	5:19-cv-00691-XR (Braden) 5:19-cv-00706-XR (Lookingbill) 5:19-cv-00714-XR (Solis)
11	5:19-cv-00715-XR (McKenzie)
12	5:19-cv-00805-XR (Curnow) 5:19-cv-00806-XR (Macias)
13	
14	VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES
15	Taken on behalf of Plaintiffs
16	January 9, 2020
17	9:16 a.m.
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	Reported by Robin L. Stranimeier, R.P.R., C.S.R.
25	



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13	IT IS STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between counsel that
14	the videotaped deposition of MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES, may be
15	taken by and on behalf of the plaintiffs, pursuant to statute
16	governing such depositions on January 9, 2020, at Scott Air
17	Force Base, 375 AMW/JA, 101 Heritage Drive, Suite 210, Scott
18	Air Force Base, Illinois 62225, before Robin L. Stranimeier,
19	Registered Professional Reporter and Certified Shorthand
20	Reporter, within and for the State of Illinois; and that this
21	deposition may be taken with the same force and effect as if
22	all statutory requirements had been complied with; thereafter
23	transcribed into typewriting, with signature of the witness
24	expressly reserved.
25	



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1		
2	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES,	
3	having been produced, sworn and examined on the part of	
4	plaintiffs, testified and deposed as follows:	
5	EXAMINATION	
б	QUESTIONS BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	
7	Q. Good morning.	9:17
8	A. Morning.	9:17
9	Q. Would you please state your name for the record.	9:17
10	A. My name is Nathan McLeod-Hughes.	9:17
11	Q. Okay. And are you currently in the military, sir?	9:17
12	A. No, I am not.	9:17
13	Q. Okay. When did you leave the military?	9:17
14	A. I retired in the end of November 2014.	9:17
15	Q. Okay. And what rank were you at your time of	9:17
16	retirement?	9:17
17	A. I was a major.	9:17
18	Q. Would it be okay if I called you Major Hughes? You	9:17
19	feel like you've earned it.	9:17
20	A. If that's convenient, sure.	9:17
21	Q. Okay. How do you do you I know you're out of	9:17
22	the military and I've had the pleasure of representing a lot of	9:17
23	military families over my career and when they're out of the	9:17
24	military they always take a step back when someone refers to	9:18
25	them by their prior service rank. So I just that's why I	9:18



	HOLCOMBE		Ö
1	asked. I	want to make sure it's okay with you or how you	9:18
2	prefer it		9:18
3	Α.	That's fine with me.	9:18
4	Q.	Okay. How long were you in the military, sir?	9:18
5	Α.	It was 15 years and about 5 months.	9:18
6	Q.	Okay. And what do you do currently?	9:18
7	Α.	I am a government civilian. I work in the 375th	9:18
8	Logistics	Readiness Squadron and I am the flight chief for the	9:18
9	Deploymer	nt and Distribution Flight.	9:18
10	Q.	I believe you said the 356 LRS?	9:18
11	Α.	I apologize, 375th.	9:18
12	Q.	375. Okay. I may have heard you wrong. And what is	9:18
13	your posi	tion with the 375th?	9:18
14	Α.	I am the flight chief.	9:18
15	Q.	And you said you were a civilian employee of the	9:18
16	governmen	nt at this	9:18
17	Α.	Correct.	9:18
18	Q.	point?	9:18
19		Okay. And as flight chief what is your well, what	9:19
20	is your -	what's your government rating status? Like G	9:19
21	Α.	GS-12.	9:19
22	Q.	GS-12. And did you join the 375th right after you	9:19
23	retired f	from the Air Force	9:19
24	Α.	No, I did not.	9:19
25	Q.	in 2014?	9:19



		-
1	Okay. What did you do after you retired?	9:19
2	A. I worked as a managerial shift supervisor for a	9:19
3	pharmaceutical firm in St. Louis. I then became a government	9:19
4	contractor shortly after that.	9:19
5	Q. What were your responsibilities as flight chief	9:19
6	currently?	9:19
7	A. I am the second in command for the flights. I work a	9:19
8	lot of the operational issues. So if we have the day-to-day	9:19
9	activities as they occur, I usually am involved in making sure	9:19
10	that they happen and coordinating with the section supervisors.	9:19
11	Q. And what does the 375th LRS do? What are they	9:19
12	responsible for?	9:19
13	A. They're overall responsible for all the logistics and	9:20
14	supply chain management as well as the distribution processes	9:20
15	for the base.	9:20
16	Q. And what does that mean, logistics supply side and	9:20
17	mechanics of the base?	9:20
18	A. We provide overall responsibility for oversight of	9:20
19	the distribution processes on and off the installation. We do	9:20
20	supply chain management where we manage assets for the military	9:20
21	for the various partners that we have on base. They also are	9:20
22	in charge of the POL or the refueling capabilities that we	9:20
23	provide for either vehicles or for aircraft. And we also	9:20
24	maintain a vehicle fleet on base and we provide management	9:20
25	oversight as well as vehicle maintenance for those.	9:20



7

		8
1	Q. Okay. Have you ever had your deposition taken	9:20
2	before?	9:20
3	A. No.	9:20
4	Q. Have you ever provided testimony in any form whether	9:20
5	civil or criminal in any kind of courtroom or	9:20
6	A. Yes.	9:20
7	Q proceeding?	9:21
8	Okay. Can you tell me about that?	9:21
9	A. I went through a motion for adoption for my	9:21
10	stepchildren. I've also been a court member for a trial that	9:21
11	actually went through and my first jury panel I was dismissed.	9:21
12	Q. You were called in to serve on a jury?	9:21
13	A. Yes.	9:21
14	Q. Okay. Anything else?	9:21
15	A. No.	9:21
16	Q. All right. The reason I ask that is I wanted to make	9:21
17	sure that that you sort of understood how this process in a	9:21
18	deposition works, and so that you're as comfortable as you can	9:21
19	be with it. And I'm sure you went over some of these things	9:21
20	with some of the attorneys for the government as well. And I'm	9:21
21	not asking you by the way, I don't want I'm not asking	9:21
22	for any information in that regard, but want I'd like to do is	9:22
23	just kind of give you a little bit of the ground rules for how	9:22
24	a deposition is supposed to work. Which primarily is to try to	9:22
25	make sure we get your testimony accurate. And so that's what	9:22



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1	kind of t	these rules are for.	9:22
2		First of all, you and I have never met before, right?	9:22
3	Α.	Correct.	9:22
4	Q.	And do you understand that I represent a number of	9:22
5	the famil	ies that were killed and severely injured in the	9:22
6	Sutherlar	nd Springs mass shooting at the Sutherland Springs	9:22
7	First Bap	otist Church in Texas?	9:22
8	Α.	Yes.	9:22
9	Q.	And you understand that was in November 5, 2017?	9:22
10	Α.	Approximate.	9:22
11	Q.	Around that time?	9:22
12	Α.	Yes.	9:22
13	Q.	Okay. One of the first things you did when we	9:22
14	started i	s you took an oath. Do you remember that?	9:22
15	Α.	Yes.	9:22
16	Q.	And I want to make sure that you understand we're	9:22
17	actually	in a courtroom right now and I want to make sure that	9:22
18	you under	stand that the oath, as quick as it was, that you just	9:22
19	took is t	the has the same legal force and effect as if you	9:23
20	had taker	n in this courtroom before a judge and a jury. Do you	9:23
21	understar	nd that?	9:23
22	Α.	Yes, sir.	9:23
23	Q.	Okay. So you understand that the oath that you took	9:23
24	has the s	same penalty for perjury for not telling the truth?	9:23
25	Α.	Yes.	9:23



		1
1	Q. Okay. It's something, you're doing a pretty good job	9:23
2	of, even though we have a video here and we have a court	9:23
3	reporter taking down your testimony we want to make sure that	9:23
4	your testimony is taken accurately. So to the best of your	9:23
5	ability try to let me finish my question before you answer even	9:23
6	if you think you know what I'm asking you. Does that make	9:23
7	sense?	9:23
8	A. Yes.	9:23
9	Q. Give you a good example, in normal conversation if	9:23
10	you and I were just sitting around talking, you know, most of	9:23
11	the time we interrupt when someone's asking is oh, I know what	9:23
12	you're going to ask me and would go ahead and answer that and	9:23
13	that would be fine. But in a deposition it's a little	9:24
14	difficult because it's not clear what you're the question	9:24
15	you're actually answering if we're both talking at the same	9:24
16	time. Does that make sense to you?	9:24
17	A. Yes, it does.	9:24
18	Q. All right. So from time to time I may I may	9:24
19	interrupt you and say, hey, let me finish my question or I may	9:24
20	just put my hand out like that and say I'm still going.	9:24
21	Normally if I did that, that would be kind of rude, but I'm not	9:24
22	doing that to be I'm actually doing that because it's	9:24
23	important to me that your testimony is taken down accurately	9:24
24	and you actually know what my question is going to be. Is that	9:24
25	okay?	9:24



	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 11	
1	A. Fine with me.	
2	Q. And, you know, I'm from Texas so I think I talk fast	
3	for a Texan, but that's still slow for most people. And so	
1	part of that is going to require a little discipline on your	
	part in just letting me finish my question. All right?	
5	A. Okay.	
	Q. The other thing too is, you know, generally we take a	
3	break every hour or so just to stretch our legs, go to the	
)	restroom. Sometimes we get a little over that just because I'm	
)	not paying I'm just we're just going and getting through	
L	the information, but if you need to take a break just let me	
2	know that's fine. We'll take a break at a natural stopping	
3	point. If we're in the middle of a question get that question	
ł	out, but just let me know we can we can do that. Okay?	
	A. Okay.	
)	Q. All right. The only other thing is, and you're doing	
	a great job of this, is try not to say uh-huh or uh-uh when you	
}	mean yes or no or don't shake your head. The court reporter	
)	will actually take down witness nods head and even though we	
)	have a video and we can probably interpret it. Again going	
L	back to that original point about us wanting to make sure we	
	get accurate testimony. If you if you do that even though I	
	kind of know probably what your answer was I may say is that a	
Ł	yes or is that a no. Can you say yes or no when you nod your	
	head. Again, that might that's odd in a normal conversation	
		1



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1	and it might seem rude, but that's not what I'm trying
2	trying to do. Does that make sense?
3	A. I understand.
4	Q. The only other thing too is if I ask you to speak up
5	a little bit that's also, because I want to make sure everyone
6	can hear your answer and make sure that the record is clear,
7	what your answer is. Again, that might be rude but you can
8	kind of see that all these rules really go back to one thing
9	which is probably important to you and that is we want to get
10	your testimony down accurately. All right?
11	A. Makes sense.
12	Q. All right. So let's talk a little bit about your
13	deposition prep if you don't mind. Can you kind of tell me
4	what you did to prepare for the deposition today?
.5	A. I met with Ms. Jocelyn and we discussed some of the
6	basic processes on what would occur today.
.7	Q. That was a good example, I couldn't hear that last
18	part.
19	A. We talked about some of the basic processes and what
20	I can expect during this session.
21	Q. Okay. You said you met with Jocelyn. That's the
22	U.S. Attorney?
23	A. That is correct.
24	Q. From Washington, DC.
25	A. Yes, sir.



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	Q.	Where did you all meet?	
2	Α.	In this room.	
3	Q.	Okay. And about how long did you meet?	
4	Α.	A little less than two hours.	
5	Q.	Okay. And did you review any documents in	
5	preparat	ion for your deposition?	
7	Α.	Yes, I did.	
8	Q.	Can you tell me about that?	
9	Α.	It was the letter of reprimand that I issued and	
0	signed ar	nd the document that was used for pretrial confinement.	
1	Q.	And your attorney outlined three documents. One was	
2	also the	confinement order. Was that a document that you	
3	reviewed	as well?	
4	Α.	I was under the impression that was a combined	
5	document		
6	Q.	It might have been. It might have been. It might	
7	have beer	1.	
8		Okay. So when you said pretrial confinement document	
9	that prob	pably would have included the confinement order, right?	
0	Α.	Yes.	
1	Q.	Okay. Anything else you reviewed in preparation for	
2	the depos	sition?	
3	Α.	Not that I recall, no.	
4	Q.	Okay. Did you communicate, talk with anyone other	
5	than the	United States Attorneys in preparation for your	



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		+
1	deposition?	9:27
2	A. I have had conversations with people about going	9:28
3	through this.	9:28
4	Q. And just so I'm clear, when you say "going through	9:28
5	this" you're talking about the deposition?	9:28
б	A. Yes, I did.	9:28
7	Q. Okay. And who did you talk with about the	9:28
8	deposition?	9:28
9	A. I have talked with my wife to let her know that I	9:28
10	would be unavailable.	9:28
11	Q. Okay.	9:28
12	A. I did talk about what it was, what the deposition was	9:28
13	for, but it was not beyond open source internet available	9:28
14	information. I did talk to my squadron commander, Lieutenant	9:28
15	Jennifer Lieutenant Colonel Jennifer Kennedy to let her know	9:28
16	why I was going to be unavailable. I have talked with my	9:28
17	former squadron commander briefly by e-mail mostly in relation	9:28
18	to the shootings, less about the deposition.	9:28
19	Q. Okay. And I was going to ask you about that next,	9:29
20	but let me let me shut down this. We'll talk about	9:29
21	conversations, E-mails, communications you had when the	9:29
22	shooting occurred. Is that what you were referring to?	9:29
23	A. Yes.	9:29
24	Q. Okay. So let's talk about just, you said you talked	9:29
25	with your wife. Is there anybody else that you spoke with in	9:29



	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 15	
1	actually preparing for the deposition?	9
2	A. No.	9
3	Q. And just so no, no. That's fine. You're fine.	9
4	That was the question. And just to make sure that you	9
5	understand what I'm talking about too, did you call any former	9
5	colleagues who worked with you at the Air Force base in	9
7	Holloman or any employees who worked underneath you at that	9
3	time to refresh your memory about events in preparation for the	9
9	deposition?	9
0	A. No.	9
1	Q. Okay. I want to hand you, just because I marked it,	9
2	this is Deposition Exhibit No. 1. That's what the Number 1 up	9
3	here means.	9
4	(Document marked Exhibit No. 1.)	9
5	Q. This is what's called a Notice of Deposition	9
6	that we sent to your attorneys. Your attorneys being the U.S.	9
7	Attorneys Office. It's just like a subpoena that says, hey, we	9
8	need to take your deposition and if you can bring any exhibits	9
9	with you that are attached as Exhibit A. Have you seen this	9
0	document before?	9
1	A. No, I have not.	9
2	Q. Okay. And it's pretty straightforward. If you keep	9
3	flipping there you'll see Exhibit A and we just ask you to	9
4	bring if you have one a CV and/or and any documents you	9
5	reviewed in preparation for deposition. Your attorney provided	9



1	us with a list of the documents you reviewed, but do you have a	9:30
2	CV?	9:30
3	A. Not with me.	9:30
4	Q. Okay. Do you maintain a current CV?	9:30
5	A. Yes, I do.	9:30
6	Q. Okay. And where do you maintain it?	9:30
7	A. At work on my computer.	9:30
8	Q. Okay. So easy to get if you needed to?	9:30
9	Easy to get if you needed	9:30
10	A. Yes.	9:30
11	Q to?	9:30
12	Okay. You can just leave that there. Now, going	9:30
13	back to what you brought up just a few minutes ago, you	9:30
14	mentioned that you had communications with folks about the	9:30
15	shooting itself when it occurred back in November of 2017	9:31
16	timeframe. Did I get that correctly?	9:31
17	A. Yes, sir.	9:31
18	Q. Okay. Can you tell me about the people that you	9:31
19	spoke with and communicated with including generally what you	9:31
20	talked about when you heard about this terrible event?	9:31
21	A. I had E-mailed my former squadron commander,	9:31
22	Lieutenant Colonel Robert Bearden asking if he was aware of the	9:31
23	shootings. There really wasn't much communication beyond	9:31
24	acknowledgment yes. I believe a friend of mine had asked me	9:31
25	about the shooting due to the timing that I was at Holloman and	9:31



	HOLCOMBE VS UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	1
1	the reference to Mr. Kelley being assigned there. Do not	9:31
2	remember the timeframe and I don't remember the person's name	9:31
3	at the time. Beyond that I don't really recall any specifics	9:31
4	on names of people.	9:31
5	Q. You said that you E-mailed Colonel Bearden and he	9:32
б	responded back to you?	9:32
7	A. Yes.	9:32
8	Q. What e-mail did you send that from? Was it your	9:32
9	can you tell me what e-mail you sent it from?	9:32
10	A. It would have been my work e-mail.	9:32
11	Q. And work e-mail where?	9:32
12	A. I don't remember which e-mail address I was e-mailing	9:32
13	it from.	9:32
14	Q. So why don't you just tell me all the e-mail	9:32
15	addresses you had at the time that you would have e-mailed	9:32
16	Colonel Bearden about this particular event. So this would	9:32
17	have been in late 2017 November timeframe.	9:32
18	A. It would have been an e-mail address while I was a	9:32
19	contractor at US Transcom.	9:32
20	Q. Can you spell is it trans com?	9:32
21	A. U-S-T-R-A-N-S-C-O-M. Short for U.S. Transportation	9:33
22	Command.	9:33
23	Q. Okay. Was that would you have been at that time	9:33
24	with working with the Air Force again?	9:33
25	A. No. That particular organization is a joint	9:33

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organi;	ation that has many services as a part of it.
Q.	Were you working with the military even though I'm
just ti	ying to understand what the job was.
A	Yes.
Q.	Okay. So what was the job at TRANSCOM?
A	I was a exercise planner for U.S. Transportation
Command	s and then I became a systems manager in the same
command	while serving as a contractor to another organization.
Q.	Okay. Could you have sent the E-mail from another
E-mail	other than USTRANSCOM? Like you said, you were working
for	as a contractor of another organization.
A	I was only a contractor for one organization, but I
did se	ve as two different jobs working in the same
organiz	ation.
Q.	Did you have a personal E-mail that you also used
during	that timeframe, so November 2017?
A	Yes. I would have used a personal E-mail address at
that the	me.
Q.	Okay. What was your personal E-mail address at that
time?	Just in case that is where you might have sent the
E-mail	to Colonel Bearden.
A	It would have been a Google mail address.
Q.	What's that address?
A	Nathan.mcleodhughes, without the hyphen, @gmail.com.
Q	Okay. Any other E-mail addresses you might have been



		- -
1	using at that time when you communicated with Colonel Bearden?	9:34
2	A. None.	9:34
3	Q. All right. Did you send can you do you	9:34
4	remember and it's okay, I'm asking for your best memory,	9:34
5	sir. I want to make sure I'm clear on that. Do you remember	9:34
6	which E-mail address you would have sent to Colonel Bearden?	9:34
7	A. It would have been from my military address.	9:35
8	Q. To I'm sorry I wasn't clear. Do you remember	9:35
9	Colonel Bearden's address, was it to his military address,	9:35
10	E-mail address?	9:35
11	A. I do not remember.	9:35
12	Q. Okay. All right. Do you know if Colonel Bearden was	9:35
13	still in the military at that time?	9:35
14	A. Yes, he was.	9:35
15	Q. He was. Okay.	9:35
16	And would you have had any occasion to E-mail him to	9:35
17	a private E-mail?	9:35
18	A. No.	9:35
19	Q. Okay. So best memory, probably you would have sent	9:35
20	it to Colonel Bearden's whatever his Air Force E-mail was at	9:35
21	the time in November of 2017?	9:35
22	A. I don't know if it was an Air Force E-mail address,	9:35
23	but it would have been a military E-mail address.	9:35
24	Q. Okay. That's actually what I'm asking, whether it's	9:35
25	Air Force, it's some kind of government military E-mail address	9:35

		'
1	you sent to Colonel Bearden in 2017 about the shooting, right?	9:35
2	A. Most likely. Not all E-mail addresses are the same	9:35
3	in the military. There is a distinction between them. So	9:36
4	that's why I don't know if it was an Air Force E-mail address	9:36
5	or if it was another DoD related server system that was	9:36
б	providing the E-mail address to.	9:36
7	Q. That's fine. And I think you said he had a short	9:36
8	response to you?	9:36
9	A. Yes.	9:36
10	Q. Okay. And did you have any more E-mail	9:36
11	correspondence with Colonel Bearden about the mass shooting?	9:36
12	A. No, I did not.	9:36
13	Q. Did you let's move on to other forms of	9:36
14	communication with Colonel Bearden. Did you guys talk about	9:36
15	what happened?	9:36
16	A. No, I did not.	9:36
17	Q. Any other text messages? Instant messages? Face	9:36
18	Book messages? Messenger? Anything like that with Colonel	9:36
19	Bearden regarding the November 2017	9:36
20	A. No.	9:36
21	Q shooting?	9:36
22	Okay. Okay. Let's move on to other people you might	9:36
23	have contacted. Is there anyone else that you contacted	9:36
24	shortly after or immediately following the November 2017	9:37
25	shooting?	9:37



	A. I did not contact anybody
	Q. Okay.
	A beyond Colonel Bearden.
	Q. So Colonel
	A. I apologize. I did not contact anybody beyond
	Colonel Bearden.
	Q. So fair just to close out this, Colonel Bearden
	and the E-mail communication you had with Colonel Bearden is
	the only communication you had with anybody in let's say in the
	military or in the government relating to the Sutherland
	Springs shooting shortly after you found out it happened?
	A. There was the one instance of a friend of mine asking
	me the question, but I don't remember the specifics.
	Q. And was that friend in the military at the time or in
	the government?
- )	A. Yes, he was in the military.
,	Q. All right. And was there anybody other than Colonel
	Bearden, anybody else at Holloman Air Force Base who either
)	contacted you or you contacted following once you became aware
)	of the mass shooting by Devin Kelley?
-	A. Beyond the one friend, no.
	Q. Okay. All right. Let me ask you a little bit about
	so have we covered everyone you talked with in preparing for
:	the deposition, by the way, I want to make sure that we covered
	everyone that you met with or talked with in preparation for



	HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 2	2
1	this deposition.	9:38
2	A. Yes.	9:38
3	Q. And we've identified every document that you reviewed	9:38
4	in preparation of this deposition?	9:38
5	A. Yes.	9:38
6	Q. Okay. And have we talked about everyone you	9:38
7	communicated with about the shooting generally in the timeframe	9:38
8	shortly after it happened?	9:38
9	A. Yes.	9:38
10	Q. Now, let's move on and ask you a little bit about	9:38
11	your involvement with Devin Kelley's investigation	9:38
12	specifically. Before I do that I want to talk a little bit	9:38
13	about sort of your background in the military. We don't have	9:38
14	your CV so I'm going to try to go through this quickly without	9:38
15	making it too onerous. You know, we we talked a little bit	9:39
16	about what you did after you separated from the military. By	9:39
17	the way, in 2014 was that a voluntary separation? I don't	9:39
18	think I asked you that. Was that voluntary?	9:39
19	A. No.	9:39
20	Q. Tell me about that.	9:39
21	A. We were going through business cuts and I was given	9:39
22	the opportunity to either separate or retire and I chose the	9:39
23	retirement option.	9:39
24	Q. You said you were given the option of separate I	9:39
25	mean retiring or what?	9:39



	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHESJanuary 09, 2020HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA23	
1	A. Or retiring. Separation or retiring.	9:
2	Q. Okay. And you chose?	9:
3	A. Retirement.	9:
4	Q. Okay. What's the difference between retiring and	9:
5	separation?	9:
б	A. Retirement you gain certain benefits from the	9:
7	government, separation you do not.	9:
8	Q. And why did chose why did you go did you say	9:
9	the separation?	9:
LO	A. I chose the retirement option.	9:
.1	Q. Oh. You chose retirement. Okay. Why were you given	9:
2	that option at that time?	9:
L3	A. The promotion cycle had occurred several times prior	9:
_4	on a yearly basis. I was not I did not meet the promotion	9:
15	criteria for lieutenant colonel. Once you are once you meet	9:
L6	the board and are not selected you then have to separate. Due	9:
L7	to the time and service I was afforded the retirement option.	9:
18	Q. Okay. What was your am I correct in understanding	9:
L9	that rank at the of time of retirement was major?	9:
20	A. Yes.	9:
21	Q. And the next one up would have been lieutenant	9:
22	colonel and colonel above that?	9:
23	A. Yes.	9:
24	Q. Okay. And why is it that you were not able to, if	9:
25	you know, to hit the lieutenant colonel plateau or	9:



	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHESJanuary 09, 2020HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA24	
1	lieutenant colonel level?	9
2	A. I was not provided the details.	9
3	Q. Do you have what's your opinion on why that	9
4	happened?	9
5	A. I just did not have the right backgrounds or	9
б	experiences in order to be selected.	9
7	Q. What background and experiences do you think you	9
8	needed to get to that next level?	9
9	A. I'm not entirely sure.	9
0	Q. Okay. You weren't told why you were not able to meet	9
1	the next level or how, you were not told that?	9
2	A. No, I was not.	9
3	Q. Were you ever told or provided any kind of training	9
4	or supervision to tell you how you could get to that level if	9
5	you wanted to?	9
6	A. No.	9
7	Q. Okay. The at the time that you were at let me	9
8	get this on the record too. Tell me what your tell me about	9
9	your time at Holloman Air Force Base, when you started, when	9
0	you ended, what rank you were, etcetera.	9
1	A. I arrived at Holloman about the summertime June/July	9
2	of 2011. I left Holloman approximately November of 2014. My	9
3	job was the director of operations for the 49th Logistics	9
4	Readiness Squadron. I served in that job the entire time	9
5	period. I was deployed for six months off site to Afghanistan	9
		-



in a similar capacity at the -- at a similar organization 9:42 1 2 there. 9:42 3 0. When were you deployed in Afghanistan, sir? 9:42 February till approximately September of 2013. 9:42 4 Α. Okay. And what was your position at Holloman Air 9:42 5 0. Force Base? Your specific position and role from 2011 through 9:42 6 7 2000 -- the end of 2012 when the Devin Kelley investigation was 9:42 8 happening --9:42 9 Α. I was --9:42 -- and his -- and his -- his eventual conviction? 9:43 10 0. Go 11 ahead. 9:43 12 I was the director of operations for the Logistics 9:43 Α. 13 Readiness Squadron there. 9:43 14 0. And you were a major? 9:43 15 Yes, I was. 9:43 Α. 16 All right. So when you say you were the director of 9:43 0. 17 operations for the 49th Logistic Readiness Squadron what was 9:43 18 your job? What were your responsibilities? 9:43 19 Α. The director of operations is the second in command 9:43 for the squadron when it come -- my day-to-day duties involved 20 9:43 21 operational issues ensuring that our support to our customers 9:43 22 is provided. 9:43 23 What kind of -- you said you were the second in 9:43 0. 24 command for the squadron? 9:43 25 Α. Yes, sir. 9:43



		HAN MCLEOD-HUGHESJanuary 09, 2020vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA26	
1	Q.	And is that the entire 49th Security Forces Squadron?	9:43
2	Α.	49th Logistics Readiness Squadron.	9:43
3	Q.	Okay. And is this I'm sorry. Is the Security	9:43
4	Forces So	quadron within the Logistic Readiness Squadron?	9:43
5	Α.	No.	9:43
6	Q.	Okay. How is what is the relationship between the	9:43
7	I'm go	oing to say LRS for Logistic Readiness Squadron. Is	9:43
8	that okay	7?	9:43
9	Α.	Yes.	9:43
10	Q.	Am I saying that right?	9:43
11		What is the relationship between the 49th LRS and the	9:44
12	49th Secu	arity Forces?	9:44
13	Α.	They are separate organizations with their own	9:44
14	leadershi	-p.	9:44
15	Q.	Okay.	9:44
16	Α.	They are in a larger group called the Mission Support	9:44
17	Group tha	at has a single colonel in charge of that organization.	9:44
18	Q.	You said the Security Forces is in a larger group	9:44
19	than Miss	sion Support Group?	9:44
20	Α.	Yes, sir.	9:44
21	Q.	With a I'm sorry, did you say colonel	9:44
22	Α.	Yes.	9:44
23	Q.	in charge of the Mission Support Group?	9:44
24	Α.	Correct.	9:44
25	Q.	And who was that at the time of the Devin Kelley	9:44
			J



	HOLCOMBE VS UNITED STATES OF AMERICA 27	
1	investigation?	9:44
2	A. I don't remember.	9:44
3	Q. I know you E-mailed you mentioned Colonel Bearden.	9:44
4	Was he at some point in time while you were at Holloman Air	9:44
5	Force Base, was he one of those colonels at the Security Forces	9:44
б	Mission Support Group?	9:44
7	A. No.	9:44
8	Q. No. Any other colonels you can think of that were	9:44
9	may have been in charge of the Mission Support Group, 49th	9:45
10	Security Forces?	9:45
11	A. I cannot recall their names.	9:45
12	Q. Okay. Now, you said you were in second command for	9:45
13	the squadron?	9:45
14	A. Yes.	9:45
15	Q. Now, what is the squadron?	9:45
16	A. The squadron is the Logistic Readiness Squadron, it	9:45
17	maintains and does the same general capabilities that the	9:45
18	Logistic Readiness Squadron here does. Just at a different	9:45
19	location.	9:45
20	Q. Okay. Now, Devin Kelley was in the Logistics	9:45
21	Readiness Squadron, correct?	9:45
22	A. Correct.	9:45
23	Q. Okay. So you were one of Devin Kelley's commanders	9:45
24	when he was at the Holloman Air Force Base LRS; is that right?	9:45
25	A. No. I was not the commander. Occasionally I was the	9:45



<pre>acting commander. Q. Okay. When were you occasionally the acting commander? A. I don't recall the dates. Q. Sometime during were you at various times acting commander of the 49th LRS while Devin Kelley was at the LRS? A. Correct. Q. Okay. So while Devin Kelley was there at times you were the acting commander of his squadron? A. Yes. Q. Okay. By the way, at all times that you were at Holloman Air Force Base, including the times that Devin Kelley was there you were you were an employee for the federal government working within the course and scope of your federal employment; is that right? A. Yes. Q. Okay. Going back to what we were talking about in terms of the command structure. Who was your commander? Who was your let me put let me scratch that. Who was your supervisor? A. At which particular time? Q. 2011 to 2013 at Holloman Air Force Base. A. 2011 to 2012 was Lieutenant Colonel Frank Marconi. From 2012 to 2014 would have been Lieutenant Colonel Robert Bearden.</pre>	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA	January 09, 2020 28
<pre>commander? A. I don't recall the dates. Q. Sometime during were you at various times acting commander of the 49th LRS while Devin Kelley was at the LRS? A. Correct. Q. Okay. So while Devin Kelley was there at times you were the acting commander of his squadron? A. Yes. Q. Okay. By the way, at all times that you were at Holloman Air Force Base, including the times that Devin Kelley was there you were you were an employee for the federal government working within the course and scope of your federal employment; is that right? A. Yes. Q. Okay. Going back to what we were talking about in terms of the command structure. Who was your commander? Who was your let me put let me scratch that. Who was your supervisor? A. At which particular time? Q. 2011 to 2013 at Holloman Air Force Base. A. 2011 to 2012 was Lieutenant Colonel Frank Marconi. From 2012 to 2014 would have been Lieutenant Colonel Robert</pre>	acting commander.	
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<ul> <li>A. Yes.</li> <li>Q. Okay. Going back to what we were talking about in terms of the command structure. Who was your commander? Who was your let me put let me scratch that.</li> <li>Who was your supervisor?</li> <li>A. At which particular time?</li> <li>Q. 2011 to 2013 at Holloman Air Force Base.</li> <li>A. 2011 to 2012 was Lieutenant Colonel Frank Marconi.</li> <li>From 2012 to 2014 would have been Lieutenant Colonel Robert</li> </ul>	4 government working within the course	and scope of your federal
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A. 2011 to 2012 was Lieutenant Colonel Frank Marconi. From 2012 to 2014 would have been Lieutenant Colonel Robert	A. At which particular time?	
From 2012 to 2014 would have been Lieutenant Colonel Robert	Q. 2011 to 2013 at Holloman Ai	r Force Base.
	A. 2011 to 2012 was Lieutenant	Colonel Frank Marconi.
Bearden.	From 2012 to 2014 would have been Lie	utenant Colonel Robert
	Bearden.	



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Q. Can you speak up just a little bit. From 2012
forward
A. 2012 to 2014 would have been Lieutenant Colonel
Robert Bearden.
Q. Now, I've seen I've seen all these folks you've
mentioned: Lieutenant Colonel Marconi, Lieutenant Colonel
Bearden, I've seen yourself, and other captain's memorandums,
etcetera relating to Devin Kelley relating to his performance
relating to reprimands in the 49th security file. Can you tell
me how how would it or how was it that you became
involved in issuing reprimands, issuing warnings and getting
involved with his, for example, his confinement while you
while Devin Kelley was at the 49th Squadron.
Q. To the best of my recollection the time that I was
brought in was for the letter of reprimand that is on file that
I've seen and you have shown. That was the first instance that
I would have been brought in that I can recall in his
particular case and his performance.
Q. Okay. And any other times you can remember?
A. Not before that time period.
Q. Okay. That would have been in the 2012 time period;
is that right?
A. Correct.
Q. And was that after the 49th Security Forces had

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1	allegations of abuse?
2	A. I don't know the time frame.
3	Q. Okay. Was it after the 49th had interviewed him and
4	his ex-wife Tessa Kelley for abuse allegations?
5	A. I'm not entirely sure of the time frame.
6	Q. We'll we'll look at. We'll I'll put those in
7	front of you because I just want to know your general knowledge
8	and memory of it.
9	A. In my position I am not normally involved in
10	administrative side of the house.
11	Q. Okay. What's what do you mean by "administrative
12	side?"
13	A. The paperwork. If LOC or letters of counseling or
14	letters of reprimand that reprimands are provided. I am not
15	normally in that process.
16	Q. Okay. So were you put in involved in the process
17	in Devin Kelley's case?
18	A. I was serving as the acting commander at the time.
19	Q. We see your name in both letter of reprimand as well
20	as in the confinement order, the pretrial confinement order is
21	because at that time at that time when Devin Kelley was
22	being investigated by the 49th Security Forces and then
23	ultimately put into pretrial confinement you were the acting
24	commander of the LRS, correct?
25	A. Correct.



#### MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 31 Did I say that correctly, acting commander of LRS? 1 9:50 0. 2 Α. Yes. 9:50 3 0. Okay. Your responsibility didn't go beyond acting 9:50 commander of LRS; is that right? 4 9:50 9:50 5 Α. Correct. Okay. Who was the commander of the 49th Security 9:50 6 0. 7 Forces Wing at the time? 9:50 8 Α. I don't know the name of the security forces 9:50 9 commander. 9:50 Okay. Never knew the name of -- while you were there 9:50 10 0. 11 never knew -- at Holloman Air Force Base you never knew who the 9:50 12 security force commander was? 9:50 13 While I was there, yes, I would have known his name. 9:50 Α. 14 I cannot recall it now. 9:50 15 What rank would that person have been? 9:50 0. 16 Α. I don't know for definite. 9:51 17 Okay. And how -- what kind of communication or 9:51 0. 18 involvement or connection did you have when you were acting 9:51 19 commander of the 49th LRS that Devin Kelley was a part of? 9:51 20 What kind of communication did you have with the 49th Security 9:51 21 Forces Wing when they were investigating folks under your 9:51 22 command like Devin Kelley? 9:51 23 They were a security forces squadron and I had zero 9:51 Α. 24 contact. 9:51 25 Q. So when one of your airmen or airwoman, women were 9:51



	TIDEODINDE VS UNITED STATES OF AMERICA 52	
1	under investigation for potential criminal conduct by the 49th	9:51
2	Security Wing Security Forces Wing they would have no	9:51
3	communication with the supervisors or commanders that were over	9:51
4	those airmen or airwomen to let you know that one of them was	9:51
5	under investigation?	9:51
б	A. I do not know if the squadron would have contacted my	9:51
7	squadron commander directly. They would more than likely not	9:51
8	have contacted the supervisors below the commander.	9:51
9	Q. All right. How did then how did you get involved?	9:52
10	How did you know to issue a letter of reprimand regarding Devin	9:52
11	Kelley assaulting his wife and child?	9:52
12	A. Our first sergeant for our squadron would have	9:52
13	brought the information to me at the time to explain what was	9:52
14	going on.	9:52
15	Q. Did you say the first sergeant in your squadron?	9:52
16	A. Correct.	9:52
17	Q. So the first sergeant of Devin Kelley's LRS at	9:52
18	Holloman Air Force Base would let you know if they knew about	9:52
19	any criminal investigation that was going on with Devin Kelley?	9:52
20	A. While serving as the acting commander, yes.	9:52
21	Q. And I think we've established that while, at least in	9:52
22	2012, you were serving as the acting commander that's why you	9:52
23	were involved in his investigation in some way?	9:52
24	A. For a short period of time.	9:52
25	Q. Okay. So what what training, if any, did you get	9:52



	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 33	
	on the Department of Defense instructions and Air Force	
	instructions regarding fingerprint submission and fingerprint	
}	collection?	
Ŀ	A. I had zero training.	
	Q. And to be clear, you had zero training on the	
<u>,</u>	Department of Defense instructions and Air Force Instructions	
	related to fingerprint collection and fingerprint submission	
	while you the entire time you were at Holloman Air Force	
)	Base?	
)	A. Correct.	
-	Q. And do you know why that is, you received no training	
)	on that?	
}	A. It was not part of my duties.	
	Q. Okay. So even in the situations where you were	
)	you were involved in issuing confinement orders or pretrial	
	confinement orders for folks like Devin Kelley, like you did in	
	this case, and letters of reprimand for domestic abuse and	
}	child abuse, like you did with Devin Kelley in this case, you	
)	had no training provided to you by the Air Force relating to	
)	when and how to submit fingerprints to the FBI?	
•	A. Having any training in any sort of fingerprints is	
	not part of the training that was ever provided to me	
	regardless of the situation.	
I	Q. Okay. So when your first sergeant or somebody in	
	your chain of command under you would report that one of your	



	<b>ESQUIRE</b> BESQUIRE BESQUIRESOLUTIONS BESQUIRESOLUTIONS BESQUIRESOLUTIONS	
	<b>2</b> FSOUTRE 800.211.DEPO (3376)	
25	A. I did get a speeding ticket while I was there. So I	9:55
24	want to do that please go ahead.	9:55
23	Q. Oh, yeah. Absolutely. And by the way, many time you	9:55
22	A. I would like to modify	9:55
21		9:55
20	All right. Well, let me ask you a little bit about	9:55
19	Q. Right? Okay.	9:55
18	A. Correct.	9:55
17	Holloman Air Force Base?	9:55
16	Q. Okay. And that's true for your entire time at	9:55
15	A. I had zero contact with the security forces squadron.	9:55
14	or convicted of crimes or under investigation for crimes?	9:55
13	airmen under your command who were either charged with crimes	9:55
12	relating to their collection and submission of fingerprints of	9:55
11	anyone at Holloman Air Force Base, 49th Security Forces Wing	9:55
10	at Holloman Air Force Base? Any kind of communications with	9:54
9	Q. Okay. Did you have any communications when you were	9:54
8	training for fingerprints or the process for that.	9:54
7	A. Regardless of the situation I was not provided any	9:54
6	to submit fingerprints to the FBI? Is that my understanding?	9:54
5	oversight or supervisory oversight of when to collect and when	9:54
4	Department of Defense didn't provide you with any training on	9:54
3	and/or convicted of a potential crime the Air Force or the	9:54
2	potential crimes or had been charged with a potential crime	9:54
1	airmen like Devin Kelley was either under investigation for	9:54

	HOLCOWIDE VS UNITED STATES OF AWERICA 55	) 7
1	did have contact with a security forces patrolman.	9:55
2	Q. Okay.	9:55
3	A. But that is the only	9:55
4	Q. Okay.	9:55
5	A contact that I have had with the squadron that I	9:55
6	can recall.	9:55
7	Q. No, I understand. And that's that's helpful to me	9:55
8	to understand sort of what your sort of purview and role	9:55
9	because it's not very clear on security forces side at least of	9:55
10	Holloman Air Force Base how everybody interacted and worked	9:56
11	together. So my understanding is when you were acting	9:56
12	commander at Holloman Air Force Base in the 2011-2012 timeframe	9:56
13	you as acting commander of the 49th LRS that Devin Kelly was a	9:56
14	part of have had no connection, involvement or working	9:56
15	relationship with the 49th Security Forces Wing?	9:56
16	A. I did not, correct.	9:56
17	Q. You did not. Okay.	9:56
18	Now, whenever you issued a letter of reprimand or	9:56
19	issued, like in this case a pretrial confinement order on Devin	9:56
20	Kelley did you have any kind of well, how did you	9:56
21	communicate that or work with, if at all, the 49th Security	9:56
22	Forces Wing when that occurred?	9:56
23	A. I did not communicate at all with the with the	9:56
24	security forces squadron. I would have communicated the	9:56
25	information to my first sergeant.	9:57
		1



	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 36	
1	Q. Your first sergeant at the time was Tracy Wolfe; is	9:57
2	that correct? When I say "at the time" let me start all	9:57
3	over.	9:57
4	When I say "at the time," that's shorthand for the	9:57
5	time that Devin Kelley was at Holloman Air Force Base 2011 to	9:57
6	the end of 2012. Fair understanding?	9:57
7	A. Fair understanding.	9:57
8	Q. At the time that Devin Kelley was there was Tracy	9:57
9	Wolfe the first sergeant who you're referring to? If you know.	9:57
10	A. I am not entirely sure.	9:57
11	Q. Okay.	9:57
12	A. About the timeframe.	9:57
13	Q. Okay. Do you know who Tracy Wolfe is?	9:57
14	A. Yes.	9:57
15	Q. Was Tracy Wolfe a first sergeant at Holloman Air	9:57
16	Force Base while you were there?	9:57
17	A. Yes, he was.	9:57
18	Q. Is Tracy a man or a woman?	9:57
19	A. Man.	9:57
20	Q. Okay. Was Mr. Wolfe a first sergeant at Holloman Air	9:57
21	Force Base while Devin Kelley was at Holloman Air Force Base?	9:57
22	A. I am not entirely sure.	9:57
23	Q. Okay. Do you remember whether when you were the	9:58
24	acting commander at Holloman Air Force Base if Tracy Wolfe was	9:58
25	a first sergeant there?	9:58



	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 37	
1	A. I do not remember.	9:58
2	Q. Mark that as 2.	9:59
3	(Documents marked Exhibit No. 2 and No. 3.)	9:59
4	A. I would like to clarify it was not a speeding ticket.	9:59
5	It was a stop sign violation.	9:59
6	Q. Okay.	9:59
7	A. Just to	9:59
8	Q. I had you, man. I had you. I knew it was stop and	9:59
9	you said speeding I'm like I got him. I got him. Thank you	9:59
10	for clarifying. That's okay.	9:59
11	I'm going to hand you Exhibit No. 2. We had talked	9:59
12	briefly just generally about the general DoDI Instructions and	9:59
13	Air Force Instructions about fingerprint collection and	9:59
14	submission. So I wanted to show you specifically what I was	9:59
15	talking about so you could tell me for certain whether or not	9:59
16	you recognize this. So I'll just hand you Exhibit No. 2 which	9:59
17	is DoDI Instruction 5505.11, and you can look at it real quick.	10:00
18	It's really just a couple of pages. Most of it is just	10:00
19	attachments. And tell me when you're done skimming it.	10:00
20	A. I'm done skimming.	10:00
21	Q. Okay. Have you ever seen DoDI Instruction 5505.11?	10:01
22	A. No, I have not.	10:01
23	Q. Okay. And I'm going to hand you Exhibit No. 3. And	10:01
24	let me be clear first before we look at Exhibit No. 3. Exhibit	10:01
25	No. 2 DoDI Instruction 5505.11 you never saw that while you	10:01



		, 1
1	were anytime while you were at Holloman Air Force Base,	10:01
2	correct?	10:01
3	A. That is correct.	10:01
4	Q. And so the Air Force or DoD never trained you	10:01
5	specifically on this instruction your entire time in the Air	10:01
6	Force; is that fair?	10:01
7	A. That is correct.	10:01
8	Q. Since the shooting have you ever been trained on this	10:01
9	instruction?	10:01
10	A. No, I have not been.	10:01
11	Q. And I know you were out of the Air Force before the	10:01
12	shooting occurred; correct? 2014 is when you left	10:01
13	A. Yes.	10:01
14	Q the Air Force?	10:01
15	Okay. And so I'm going to hand you Exhibit No. 3 as	10:01
16	well. Exhibit No. 3 is the Air Force Instruction 31-206. It	10:01
17	also deals with fingerprint submission/collection as well.	10:01
18	Have you ever seen that before?	10:01
19	A. No, I have not.	10:01
20	Q. So fair to say that the Department of Defense and the	10:02
21	Air Force did not instruct you sorry did not train you at	10:02
22	any time on Air Force Instruction 31-206 while you were in the	10:02
23	Air Force?	10:02
24	A. That is correct.	10:02
25	Q. Okay. You can move those here.	10:02
		]



	HOLCOMBE VS UNITED STATES OF AMERICA 39	1
1	Now, are you familiar with what a High Risk for	10:02
2	Violence Response Team is?	10:02
3	A. No.	10:02
4	Q. Are you familiar with what a CRB, Central Registry	10:02
5	Board, is?	10:02
6	A. No.	10:02
7	Q. Okay. So fair to say the Air Force never trained you	10:02
8	on either what a High Risk for Violence Response Team or what a	10:02
9	CRB, Central Registry Board, is while you were at the Air	10:02
10	Force?	10:02
11	A. That is correct.	10:02
12	Q. Okay. Did you when you were at Holloman Air Force	10:02
13	Base while Devin Kelley was there did your command, so the 49th	10:03
14	LRS, have access to any kinds of files, security forces files	10:03
15	relating to people in your command that were being	10:03
16	investigated?	10:03
17	A. I don't know.	10:03
18	Q. What do you mean by "you don't know"?	10:03
19	A. I don't know if they would or would not have had	10:03
20	access to any files.	10:03
21	Q. No. What I'm asking is, when you were at Holloman	10:03
22	Air Force Base and when you were in second command at 49th LRS	10:03
23	and when you were acting commander at 49th LRS would you was	10:03
24	there any time which you would have had access to any computer	10:03
25	files, security forces files relating to investigations,	10:03



	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 40	
1	criminal investigations that were being done on people under	10:03
2	your command like Devin Kelley?	10:03
3	A. No.	10:03
4	Q. Okay. Would you have ever been sent files from the	10:03
5	security forces or the AFOSI relating to airmen or airwomen	10:03
б	like Devin Kelley who are being criminally investigated while	10:04
7	you were second in command or acting command at Holloman Air	10:04
8	Force Base?	10:04
9	A. No.	10:04
10	Q. Okay. So how again, going back to what we	10:04
11	discussed earlier. First of all, do you know what AFOSI is?	10:04
12	A. Yes.	10:04
13	Q. Okay. And do you know were you familiar with the	10:04
14	AFOSI office at Holloman Air Force Base?	10:04
15	A. No.	10:04
16	Q. I mean, when I say "familiar," did you know where it	10:04
17	was?	10:04
18	A. No. I actually did not know the location of the	10:04
19	office.	10:04
20	Q. Okay. Did you know anybody who is a special agent or	10:04
21	superintendent or a special agent in charge at the AFOSI office	10:04
22	at Holloman Air Force when you were there?	10:04
23	A. No, I did not.	10:04
24	Q. Did you ever have any communication with special	10:04
25	agents who were investigating your airmen while you were at	10:04

	HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA	1
-	Holloman Air Force Base?	
2	A. Not that I can recall.	
3	Q. Okay. So if if agents send sent records, OSI	
1	records from the AFOSI to the 49th Logistics Readiness Squadron	
5	where would you those be stored?	
5	A. I don't know if the OSI organization would have sent	
7	any sort of investigatory documents to the squadron.	
8	Q. Okay. I'm going to	
9	A. As I understand it open investigations are close hold	
C	and I don't believe a lot of those would be released.	
1	Q. Okay. If you can look on the screen behind you. Can	
2	you see that?	
3	A. Yes, I can.	
1	Q. Okay. So just look it that real quick and then we'll	
5	talk about it in just a second if you don't mind.	
5	A. Okay.	
7	Q. Okay. Just give me second. I'm going to look for	
8	the specific file here. Okay. I'm showing you on the screen	
9	what's marked as USA 14794. Do you see that number on the	
C	bottom right?	
1	A. Yes, I do.	
2	Q. Okay. Now and I didn't tell you this earlier, but	
3	whenever you see a document that has that number USA on it with	
Ł	a number, big number after it that means that the United States	
	government's lawyers gave that to me and the lawyers on our	



		1
1	side after we essentially subpoenaed the records. So we asked	10:07
2	for an official legal request to give all relevant documents to	10:07
3	us and then if they're in the government's possession then they	10:07
4	put that number on it and they give it to us. So that's what	10:07
5	that means. That means that the United States government this	10:07
б	is their document and they give it to us. Just so you	10:07
7	understand what that means. Okay?	10:07
8	A. Okay.	10:07
9	Q. Okay. So we're looking at 14794 and the date on this	10:07
10	is June 15, 2011. Do you see that?	10:07
11	A. Yes, I see that.	10:07
12	Q. And it says on the top it's from the Department of	10:07
13	Air Force AFOSI, Air Force Office of Special Investigations,	10:07
14	correct?	10:07
15	A. Correct.	10:07
16	Q. And by the way, do you know whose signature is at the	10:07
17	top?	10:07
18	A. No, I do not.	10:07
19	Q. Initials.	10:07
20	Okay. The first line highlighted there says	10:07
21	Memorandum 4, 49 Logistics Readiness Squadron. Do you see	10:07
22	that?	10:07
23	A. Yes, I see that.	10:07
24	Q. Okay. And now that is your that's the squadron	10:08
25	that you were in, correct?	10:08



1	A. That is correct.	10:08
2	Q. And so when we were talking about you being second in	10:08
3	command and acting commander of 49 Logistics Readiness Squadron	10:08
4	that's your squadron, correct?	10:08
5	A. Correct.	10:08
6	Q. All right. And this is a memo to your squadron that	10:08
7	you were either second in command or in in command from the	10:08
8	during the 2011-2000 timeframe, correct?	10:08
9	A. Correct.	10:08
10	Q. Okay. So it's from AFOSI Detachment 225. Do you see	10:08
11	that?	10:08
12	A. Yes, I see that.	10:08
13	Q. And under Number 1 first of all, this memorandum	10:08
14	June 15, 2011, is from James Hough, the superintendent of AFOSI	10:08
15	Detachment 225. Do you see that?	10:08
16	A. Yes, I see that.	10:08
17	Q. And who is this being sent to?	10:08
18	A. That is being sent to the squadron.	10:08
19	Q. And it's who is it for?	10:09
20	A. Can you please clarify?	10:09
21	Q. Sure. It says right above the signature for the who?	10:09
22	A. For the commander.	10:09
23	Q. Okay. So that would have either been you or whoever	10:09
24	was the official commander at the time of June 5th	10:09
25	A. That would have	10:09



	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 44	
1	Q June 15, 2011, correct?	-
2	A. I apologize.	
3	Yes. That would have gone to the official commander	
1	at that time.	-
5	Q. Okay. And if you look at the very by the way, who	-
6	was the official commander again? I think you told me. The	-
7	official commander at the time of 2011-2012?	-
8	A. Lieutenant Colonel Frank Marconi was the commander,	-
9	but I do not remember when the change of command occurred.	-
0	Q. Between him and Bearden?	-
1	A. Correct.	-
2	Q. Okay. So it as either Lieutenant Colonel Marconi or	-
3	Lieutenant Colonel Bearden who were the who was the official	-
4	commander at the time of this letter, correct?	-
5	A. Correct.	-
б	Q. And then you were acting commander also during this	-
7	2011-2012 timeframe at the time, correct?	-
8	A. At times, correct.	-
9	Q. And this letter, June 15, 2011, that was sent to your	-
0	command under Number 1 highlighted there it says: This is to	-
1	inform you there's an ongoing AFOSI investigation involving A1C	-
2	Kelley from the 49 Logistics Readiness Squadron. Do you see?	-
3	A. Yes, I see that.	-
4	Q. And it says: In accordance with 71-1 Criminal	-
5	Investigations and Counter Intelligence, Paragraph 7.5.3, Air	



#### MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 45 1 10:10 Force Commanders. 2 Do you see that? 10:10 Yes, I see that. 3 Α. 10:10 All right. So on June 15, 2011, your squadron, the 10:10 4 0. 49th Logistics Readiness Squadron was informed by AFOSI 5 10:10 Detachment 225 at Holloman Air Force Base that one of your 6 10:10 7 airmen Devin Kelley was under criminal investigation and it was 10:10 8 ongoing, correct? 10:10 I do not know if the squadron received the document 9 Α. 10:10 on the date provided. That would have been the date it was 10 10:11 11 signed, but I have no idea when the squadron would have 10:11 12 received it. 10:11 13 So you see up there in the corner there's 10:11 0. Okav. somebody's signature with a date, it looks like August 5, '11. 14 10:11 15 Do you see that? 10:11 16 Yes, I see that. 10:11 Α. 17 Okay. And regardless of when it was actually 10:11 0. 18 received this was obviously dated and notifying your squadron 10:11 19 about the criminal investigation into Kelley in June 2011, 10:11 20 right? 10:11 21 10:11 Α. Correct. 22 0. Okay. And assuming this actually was sent and it was 10:11 23 received, and I'm going to represent to you this was found in 10:11 24 the security forces file as well or the 49th file, whatever the 10:11 25 government -- however they organized it for us. Assuming that 10:11



#### MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 46 1 it was received where do memos like this go when you receive a 10:11 2 memo like this when you were acting commander at 49th LRS? 10:11 3 Α. I don't know. I don't typically receive these from 10:11 4 other organizations. 10:11 Well, obviously this one was sent from other 5 0. 10:11 organizations within Holloman Air Force Base about one of your 10:11 6 7 10:12 airmen. So where would it have -- where would you have put it? 8 Α. I don't know. I was never trained on where to put 10:12 that document. 9 10:12 Okay. Well -- and that's fair. I mean, if 10:12 10 0. Okay. 11 you don't know how to do something or didn't -- weren't trained 10:12 12 on it that's important for me to know as well because I don't 10:12 13 want you to quess. 10:12 14 If you were acting commander at the time this was 10:12 15 sent regarding Devin Kelley and the fact that he was under 10:12 16 criminal investigation where would you have filed it? Where 10:12 17 would you have logged it in? Who would you have told? 10:12 18 I would probably have contacted my first sergeant. 10:12 Α. 19 Q. Okay. 10:12 20 Whomever it was at that time to let them know I had Α. 10:12 21 received this document. 10:12 22 0. All right. And that person may have been -- Tracy 10:12 23 Wolfe was one of those first sergeants who was at Holloman Air 10:12 24 Force Base during that time period, right? 10:12 I don't know who would have received it at the time. 25 Α. 10:12



		,
1	Q. Okay. Well, I'm not asking who would have received.	10:12
2	You said you would have notified your first sergeant?	10:12
3	A. I would have notified the first sergeant.	10:12
4	Q. If Tracy Wolfe was the first sergeant at that time,	10:13
5	June 15, 2011, is that the person you would have?	10:13
б	A. Correct.	10:13
7	Q. Okay. And whomever was in his position at that time	10:13
8	as first sergeant that's who you're talking about, correct?	10:13
9	A. Correct.	10:13
10	Q. And why would you have notified if you were acting	10:13
11	commander at the time this was sent and you received this	10:13
12	notice that Devin Kelley was under criminal investigation why	10:13
13	would you contact the first sergeant? Why is that person the	10:13
14	one you would tell?	10:13
15	A. The first sergeant usually has the position of	10:13
16	interactions with other organizations regarding the health and	10:13
17	welfare of our enlisted members. If a member was unfortunately	10:13
18	detained off base the first sergeant would typically be the	10:13
19	first person contacted.	10:13
20	Q. Okay. And was was is the first sergeant sort	10:13
21	of a more more direct supervisor over those like Devin	10:13
22	Kelley	10:13
23	A. No.	10:13
24	Q in LRS?	10:13
25	Okay. So why was the first sergeant the one that	10:13



		7
1	would be is that just the person who would be responsible	10:13
2	for well being of members at the at the base?	10:13
3	A. Yes.	10:13
4	Q. Is that how you did it?	10:13
5	Okay. So this would be one of those classifications	10:13
б	of, well, we have a member who an airman or airwoman who's	10:13
7	being criminally investigated by your own military	10:14
8	investigators that's a well being issue so that should go to	10:14
9	the first sergeant, agree?	10:14
10	A. Yes.	10:14
11	Q. Okay. And when you say I notified them did you	10:14
12	document that notification or just pick up the phone? Do you	10:14
13	just communicate with them or do you actually is there a	10:14
14	process in place to	10:14
15	A. I'm not aware of an official process. I would have	10:14
16	walked next door and spoken to them verbally.	10:14
17	Q. Okay. So the process at the time was if you received	10:14
18	notification as acting commander in June 2011 or sometime	10:14
19	around that timeframe that Devin Kelley is being investigated	10:14
20	criminally you would have walked over to wherever the first	10:14
21	sergeant was and verbally communicated that you received that?	10:14
22	A. That would have been what I would have done, yes.	10:14
23	Q. Okay. And then what would you have done with the	10:14
24	actual physical document here that we're looking at 14794?	10:14
25	A. I honestly don't know.	10:14
		1



1	Q. Okay. I think you earlier just a second ago, I don't	10:14
2	want to just a second ago you said that you were not trained	10:15
3	by the Air Force on what to do if you received notification	10:15
4	from a criminal investigator that one of your people was being	10:15
5	criminally investigated. Is that did I understand that	10:15
6	correctly?	10:15
7	A. I believe I had said I wasn't trained on	10:15
8	fingerprinting, but as far as	10:15
9	Q. You did say that, yes. Yes.	10:15
10	A. But as far as this process, no, I had not been	10:15
11	officially trained.	10:15
12	Q. Okay. This is what I'm talking about, this process.	10:15
13	I thought we actually touched on it so that's fine. Let's just	10:15
14	get that clear on the record. So in terms of training you	10:15
15	received by the Air Force as a second command or acting	10:15
16	commander at the 49th LRS, the Air Force didn't provide you any	10:15
17	training on what to do when one of your airmen or airwomen like	10:15
18	Devin Kelley was reported to you in writing that they were	10:15
19	under criminal investigation?	10:15
20	A. Correct.	10:15
21	Q. And all you knew to do based on your own I guess	10:15
22	experience on the job training was to contact, verbally talk to	10:16
23	the first sergeant on the base?	10:16
24	A. Correct.	10:16
25	Q. Okay. Anything else you would do other than	10:16



	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 50	
1	contacting verbally the first sergeant?	10:16
2	A. Not that I can think of.	10:16
3	Q. For example, I think you said I asked you about	10:16
4	where would you put this notification letter and you said	10:16
5	honestly I don't know what I would do with that, I don't know	10:16
б	where I would put that; is that fair?	10:16
7	A. Yes.	10:16
8	Q. So when you were acting commander did you have a	10:16
9	Devin Kelley file?	10:16
10	A. No.	10:16
11	Q. Where did you put any information you received about	10:16
12	Devin Kelley if you received it?	10:16
13	A. I did not receive any documentation that I kept.	10:16
14	Q. Okay. That you kept. All right. So if you received	10:16
15	this letter, like this letter for example you just didn't	10:16
16	the Air Force didn't train you to know what to do with it? You	10:16
17	just didn't know what to do with it, right?	10:16
18	A. Correct.	10:16
19	Q. I mean, fair to say and I'm just giving an	10:16
20	example. If you got something like this would you just put in	10:16
21	your desk somewhere or put it in the trash? What would you	10:16
22	what would you do with it?	10:16
23	A. No, I would not leave this in my desk. No, I would	10:17
24	not put it this in the trash.	10:17
25	Q. Okay. What would you do with it?	10:17



		1
1	A. I would probably talk to the first sergeant to see	10:17
2	where the best place that this document would be.	10:17
3	Q. Okay. And do you know where that would be?	10:17
4	A. No, I do don't.	10:17
5	Q. Okay. What about your well, let's actually talk	10:17
б	about that more specifically. Did you ever have any	10:17
7	conversation did you ever have any conversations when you	10:17
8	were second in command and acting commander at Holloman Air	10:17
9	Force Base with Lieutenant Colonel Marconi or Lieutenant	10:17
10	Colonel Bearden about how to deal with and how to document and	10:17
11	how to sort of supervise and monitor an airman like Devin	10:17
12	Kelley who was under your command and was under an ongoing	10:17
13	criminal investigation like we see in this document?	10:17
14	A. No.	10:17
15	Q. Okay.	10:17
16	A. Not that I can recall.	10:17
17	Q. Okay. So you don't recall any time in 2011-2012	10:18
18	timeframe where you would you would have any communication	10:18
19	with Lieutenant Colonel Marconi or Lieutenant Colonel Bearden	10:18
20	about how to manage and how to supervise and how to keep an eye	10:18
21	on this ongoing criminal investigation involving one of your	10:18
22	airmen in your command?	10:18
23	A. In my capacity I am not brought in on the full	10:18
24	details of any investigation that may be going on. So, no, I	10:18
25	would not have been told anything about the investigation other	10:18



#### MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 52 than there is an investigation going on about Member X. 10:18 1 But I 2 would not have been provided any specific training or knowledge 10:18 3 beyond that. 10:18 Okav. And so -- so what I understand is that first 10:18 4 0. specifically as it relates to Devin Kelley you never had any 5 10:18 communication, conversation, plan, discussions with your 6 10:18 7 commanders, Lieutenant Colonel Bearden and Lieutenant Colonel 10:18 8 Marconi about Devin Kelley when he -- about his criminal 10:19 investigation, correct? 9 10:19 That particular statement, no, I had communications 10:19 10 Α. 11 with them, but not for how to manage an investigation. 10:19 12 0. Okay. 10:19 13 I never touched any sort of investigation. There 10:19 Α. 14 were -- there were instances where the commander if he or she 10:19 15 was stepping out for a time period and something was going on I 10:19 16 may have been informed some superficiary information about what 10:19 17 was going on or what might happen during their time away. 10:19 18 All right. Do you remember having any specific 10:19 0. 19 conversations about Devin Kelley with Lieutenant Colonel 10:19 20 Bearden or Lieutenant Colonel Marconi? 10:19 21 10:19 Α. No, I do not remember. 22 0. All right. And what is -- what is the first thing 10:19 23 you remember about you getting involved specifically with his 10:19 24 criminal allegations? 10:19 25 Α. Would have been the letter of reprimand. 10:19



		HAN MCLEOD-HUGHESJanuary 09, 2020vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA53	
-	Q.	Okay.	10
2	Α.	That would have come up prior to issuance.	1
3	Q.	Okay.	1
Ŀ		(Document marked Exhibit No. 4.)	1
5		Q. I'm going to hand you Exhibit No. 4, sir. And	1(
5	this is	this is a October 21, 2011, Memorandum for 49	1(
,	LRS/CC.	Do you see that?	1
3	Α.	Yes, I do.	1
,	Q.	Relating to Devin Kelley, correct?	1
)	Α.	Correct.	1
-	Q.	What is can you just tell me for the record 49	1
2	LRS/CC w]	nat does that stand for?	1
3	Α.	That is the commander of the 49th Logistics Readiness	1
Ŀ	Squadron		1
5	Q.	And that's Lieutenant Colonel Marconi, correct?	1(
5	Α.	Correct.	1(
,	Q.	And so that would have been the when you were	1(
3	acting co	ommander you would have been the CC acting commander	1
)	that's -	-	1
)	Α.	Yes.	1(
-	Q.	You would have been the acting comm I'm sorry	1(
2	the CC fo	or 49 LRS during the time period you were acting	1
3	commande	r, correct?	1
Ŀ	Α.	Correct.	1
5	Q.	And it says it's for 49 LRS commander about Devin	1



#### MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 54 Kelley and it's from 49th WG/CV. Can you tell me what that is? 1 10:21 2 Α. That is the vice commander of the wing. 10:21 3 0. And that at the time was Kevin Huyck? Is that how 10:21 10:21 4 you say his name? 5 Α. "Huck." 10:21 6 0. Huck. Oh. It's simple. The "Y" threw me off. 10:21 So 7 10:21 it's H-u-y-c-k is Huck? 8 Α. Yes, sir. 10:21 So that's vice commander? 9 0. 10:21 Yes, sir. 10:21 10 Α. 11 Of the 49th what? 10:21 0. 12 10:21 Α. Of the 49th Wing. 13 Okay. And what is -- what's the difference between 10:21 Ο. 49th Wing and 49th LRS? 14 10:21 15 Α. The 49th is the number or determination for the wing 10:21 16 and the organization. The wing is the over arching 10:21 17 organization. Below the wing there are groups where the 10:22 18 Mission Support Group would have been one of those groups. 10:22 19 Below the Mission Support Group there would have been the 10:22 20 Logistics Readiness Squadron all with the same number. 10:22 So wing underneath wing Mission Support Group, 21 10:22 0. 22 underneath Mission Support Group LRS? 10:22 23 10:22 Yes, sir. Α. 24 And then I believe you told me earlier 49th Security 10:22 0. 25 Forces is separate? 10:22



	-	THAN MCLEOD-HUGHESJanuary 09, 202I vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA53	
	Α.	Yes.	1
	Q.	Is it separate from the wing?	1
	Α.	It is separate from the Logistics Readiness Squadron.	
It	falls	underneath the Mission Support Group.	1
	Q.	Okay. So LRSW and 49th Security Forces fall under	1
the	Miss	ion Support Group with falls under the wing?	1
	Α.	Correct.	1
	Q.	And who's above the 49th Wing?	1
	Α.	It would have been a numbered Air Force commander.	1
	Q.	What does that mean?	1
	Α.	Numbered Air Force is an administrative organization	1
tha	t prov	vides the next level of oversight for the wings.	1
	Q.	Which numbered would it be? Is it 12th?	1
	Α.	I am not entirely sure.	1
	Q.	Okay. And what I mean by that is, when you say a	1
num	bered	you mean there's going to be a specific number	1
att	ached	to it? I just can't remember which number it is, but	1
			1
	Α.	That is correct.	1
	Q.	it's some kind of number	1
	Α.	There would have been some kind of number Air Force	1
			1
	Q.	Command?	1
	Α.	command.	1
	Q.	Okay. And the reason I threw 12 out, that wasn't	1



		<b>,</b>
1	random. I've seen a lot of references to 12 Air Force Command	10:23
2	in relation to this particular file for Devin Kelley and so	10:23
3	without I'm not asking you to say that's the one, but are	10:23
4	you familiar that there's a 12th Air Force Command?	10:23
5	A. Yes.	10:23
6	Q. Okay. And who's above would that would that	10:23
7	numbered Air Force command, whether it's 12 or another one,	10:23
8	would that be sort of like a regional command? Or is that a	10:24
9	different type of command?	10:24
10	A. It can be a regional command. It could also be a	10:24
11	functional command.	10:24
12	Q. And what is the difference between those two?	10:24
13	A. Regional would be a geographic commend which is based	10:24
14	off of a portion of land. A functional command would be based	10:24
15	off a specific capability that they're wanting to do. For	10:24
16	example	10:24
17	Q. Okay.	10:24
18	A United States Transportation Command is a	10:24
19	functional command.	10:24
20	Q. Okay. And so let me give you an example, Region 2	10:24
21	Command was a geographic command that was over, I believe it	10:24
22	was over Holloman Air Force Base. Am I correct in that	10:24
23	understanding?	10:24
24	A. I don't know.	10:24
25	Q. Okay. And you're not sure whether the numbered Air	10:24



1	Force command, whether it's 12 or another one, is a region or a	10:24
2	function; is that right?	10:24
3	A. No. I do not know for sure.	10:24
4	Q. Okay. And when we're talking about regional command,	10:24
5	what I'm talking about is a command structure that has	10:24
б	supervisory oversight over a region of the country. So it	10:25
7	won't just be one Air Force base. It may be an Air Force base	10:25
8	all the Air Force bases in the state or all the Air Force	10:25
9	Bases in more than one state that are regioned?	10:25
10	A. Yes. That is possible.	10:25
11	Q. Okay. Who, if you know, was above the numbered Air	10:25
12	Force command in a sort of organizational chart structure?	
13	A. In this one I believe it would be the Air Combat	10:25
14	Command commander.	10:25
15	Q. Air Combat Commander?	10:25
16	A. Correct.	10:25
17	Q. And	10:25
18	A. And that acronym is ACC.	10:25
19	Q. I was going to ask you ACC. And do you know who that	10:25
20	was?	10:25
21	A. No, I do not.	10:25
22	Q. Okay. And who's above the Air Combat Commander?	10:25
23	A. Air Force secretary. Secretary of the Air Force.	10:25
24	Q. The secretary of the Air Force. Okay.	10:25
25	Okay. Let me go back to Exhibit No. 4. You see that	10:26



	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 58	
1	under subject it says Central Registry Board Incident	10:26
2	Determination. Do you see that?	10:26
3	A. Yes.	10:26
4	Q. Okay. And I'll tell you what I'll do this. Okay.	10:26
5	It's on the screen. It might be a little easier to see because	10:27
б	the writing on here is a little a little hard to tell.	10:27
7	Okay. So this is 14752, which is also Deposition Exhibit No.	10:27
8	4, and it's a Memorandum, October 21, 2011, for 49 LRS where	10:27
9	you were second in command and then acting commander at times	10:27
10	and it's from the 49th Wing. And the subject of this says	10:27
11	Central Registry Board Incident Determination. Do you see	10:27
12	that?	10:27
13	A. Yes, I do.	10:27
14	Q. Okay. And then the first paragraph, I'll highlight	10:27
15	it for you says: The CRB met on October 21, 2011 to review	10:27
16	incident 20110050 involving A1C Devin Kelley. That's do you	10:27
17	see that?	10:27
18	A. Yes, I do.	10:27
19	Q. Do you know what a CRB is?	10:27
20	A. Other than the spelling of it, no, I do not.	10:28
21	Q. Okay. And what you're saying other than the fact	10:28
22	that it tells you in this letter that was sent to your squadron	10:28
23	that CRB means Central Registry Board and you have no	10:28
24	understanding of what that is outside of how it's described in	10:28
25	this letter.	10:28



	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 59	
1	A. That is correct.	10:28
2	Q. The next sentence says regarding Devin Kelley the	10:28
3	next sentence says: The allegation was child physical	10:28
4	maltreatment of JL by A1C Devin Kelley. The board determined	10:28
5	the incidentmet is circledmet the criteria for child	10:28
6	physical maltreatment, entry into the DoD Central Registry	10:28
7	database. Do you see that?	10:28
8	A. Yes, I do.	10:28
9	Q. Okay. Now, this this is signed by Kevin Huyck,	10:28
10	Colonel, U.S. Air Force Vice Commander, correct?	10:28
11	A. Correct.	10:29
12	Q. And he was the 49th Wing Vice Commander; is that	10:29
13	right?	10:29
14	A. That is correct.	10:29
15	Q. It's signed by Lieutenant Colonel Marconi who is the	10:29
16	commander of your squadron, correct?	10:29
17	A. Correct.	10:29
18	Q. And that's that's the position you would sometimes	10:29
19	hold as acting commander, correct?	10:29
20	A. Correct.	10:29
21	Q. So when we see Commander 49th Logistics Readiness	10:29
22	Squadron anywhere that is, when you say you were acting	10:29
23	commander that's the position you sometimes held at Holloman,	10:29
24	correct?	10:29
25	A. Correct.	10:29



		1
1	Q. All right. So on October 21, 2011, the headquarters	10:29
2	49th Wing Air Combat Command was notifying your outfit LRS that	10:29
3	Devin Kelley was determined by the Central Registry Board to	10:29
4	have met the criteria for child physical maltreatment, correct?	10:29
5	A. Correct.	10:29
6	Q. And entry into something called the DoD Central	10:29
7	Registry database, right?	10:29
8	A. That he met the criteria to have be entered, correct.	10:30
9	Q. Okay. So when this was received on October 2011 by	10:30
10	the 49th LRS when you were acting commander during this	10:30
11	timeframe when you received this where what would you have	10:30
12	done with it?	10:30
13	A. I did not receive this, but I would have contacted	10:30
14	the first sergeant.	10:30
15	Q. Okay. So again the first thing you would have done	10:30
16	would have a conversation with the first sergeant and then put	10:30
17	this document somewhere?	10:30
18	A. Correct.	10:30
19	Q. Okay. Would you have done anything else?	10:30
20	A. No.	10:30
21	Q. Okay. Did Lieutenant Colonel Marconi inform you when	10:30
22	you were second commander at LRS said, hey, I just got another	10:30
23	communication saying that this guy Devin Kelley in our command	10:30
24	now has met the criteria at least according to this board of	10:30
25	child physical maltreatment?	10:30



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1	Α.	I don't know if I was the acting commar	nder at the	10:
2	time Colo	onel Marconi received this document.		10:
3	Q.	No. That's not what I I'm sorry if	I wasn't clear	10:
4	on that.	That was not what I asked. My question	n was: Would	10:
5	let me	e let me let me rephrase it. You w	vere if you	10:
6	were not	acting commander in 2011 and '12 you wou	ald have been	10:
7	second ir	n command, correct?		10:
8	Α.	Correct.		10:
9	Q.	All right. And first of all, do you	you don't	10:
10	recall Li	leutenant Marconi informing you as second	d command that	10:
11	one of yo	our men, Devin Kelley, had been found to	meet the	10:
12	criteria	for child physical maltreatment?		10:
13	Α.	That is correct.		10:
14	Q.	That's an alarming thing for someone in	n your in	10:
15	your squa	adron who you have command over to be acc	cused of,	10:
16	correct?			10:
17	Α.	According to what's on this piece of pa	aper, yes.	10:
18	Q.	I mean, that would have been and thi	s is this.	10:
19	is a docu	ument from I believe you said was you	see that ACC	10:
20	up there,	, 49th ACC, at the very top?		10:
21	Α.	Correct.		10:
22	Q.	That's the Air Combat Commander, the pe	erson who is	10:
23	just t	the command just below the secretary of t	he Air Force,	10:
24	correct?			10:
25	Α.	Air Combat commander Air Combat Comm	and Commander	10:



	HOLGOWIDE VS UNITED STATES OF AWERICA 02	-
1	is below the secretary of the Air Force, but that did not come	10:32
2	from his office.	10:32
3	Q. Well, where do you think it came from?	10:32
4	A. It came from the 49th Wing commander, the vice	10:32
5	commander's office.	10:32
б	Q. Okay. All right.	10:32
7	A. That is standard letterhead that goes on there that	10:32
8	let's people know that the 49th Wing belongs to Air Combat	10:32
9	Command.	10:32
10	Q. Okay. I understand. I understand. Thank you for	10:32
11	that. That helps me.	10:32
12	Okay. So this came from the vice commander 49th Wing	10:32
13	to your LRS department and was received by Lieutenant Colonel	10:32
14	Marconi, the commander, right?	10:32
15	A. I don't know if he received it, but he signed it and	10:32
16	saying he acknowledged it.	10:32
17	Q. Well, there's only one how can he sign it without	10:32
18	receiving it? I don't mean to be cute, sir, but how does	10:32
19	someone sign a document without receiving it whether	10:33
20	electronically or in their hands?	10:33
21	A. The way I understood your question was, who first	10:33
22	received it.	10:33
23	Q. Oh. Okay. I didn't say that, but that's okay if you	10:33
24	understood it that way. That's okay. That's a great example	10:33
25	of clarifying because I don't want to be misleading. Marconi's	10:33



	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHESJanuary 09, 2020HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA63	
1	signature appears on this document so he received it; fair to	10:33
2	say?	10:33
3	A. Correct.	10:33
4	Q. Okay. So again just to be clear Lieutenant Colonel	10:33
5	Marconi as far as you can recall didn't let you know as second	10:33
б	in command that Devin Kelley had been met the criteria for	10:33
7	child physical maltreatment, right? You don't remember being	10:33
8	informed of that, correct?	10:33
9	A. I do not remember being informed.	10:33
10	Q. And you do not know what happened to this document	10:33
11	when it was received at your 49th LRS, correct?	10:33
12	A. Correct.	10:33
13	Q. You don't know, and like I think you just told us, if	10:33
14	you had received it you would have just told the first sergeant	10:33
15	about it who was the first sergeant at the time, right?	10:33
16	A. Correct.	10:33
17	Q. And then what would you have done with this document?	10:33
18	A. I would have asked him what we do with this document.	10:33
19	Q. Okay. Who would you have asked?	10:34
20	A. The first sergeant.	10:34
21	Q. Okay. So the first sergeant would be the one to tell	10:34
22	you what to do with this document	10:34
23	A. Yes.	10:34
24	Q if you would have received it, correct?	10:34
25	A. If I had received it, yes.	10:34



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1	Q. Okay. Got it. Okay.	10:34
2	Mr. ALSAFFAR: You know, we've been going for about	10:34
3	an hour. You want to take a break?	10:34
4	THE WITNESS: Sure.	10:34
5	MR. ALSAFFAR: Okay.	10:34
6	(Brief break taken at 10:34 a.m.)	10:34
7	(Back on the record at 10:44 a.m.)	10:44
8	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	10:44
9	Q. Okay. Sir, we were talking about the October 21,	10:44
10	2011, letter that was sent to your squadron and that was	10:44
11	received and signed by Commander Marconi, and we're almost done	10:44
12	with this, but I just wanted to ask you: So on October 21,	10:44
13	2011, this board made a determination that Devin Kelley met the	10:45
14	met the criteria for child physical maltreatment, correct,	10:45
15	according to the letter?	10:45
16	A. If that's I don't know what the Central Registry	10:45
17	Board does, but it does reference child physical maltreatment.	10:45
18	Q. And it references that this board so whoever is on	10:45
19	this board determined that Devin Kelley specifically met the	10:45
20	criteria for child physical maltreatment, right?	10:45
21	A. Correct.	10:45
22	Q. And would you expect a board that is making a	10:45
23	determination of child physical maltreatment and then entering	10:45
24	it into the DoD Central Registry Database would do so only when	10:45
25	they have reasonable grounds to believe that that Devin	10:45



	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 65	
1	Kelley did in fact commit this act?	10:45
2	MS. KRIEGER: Objection. Calls for speculation.	10:46
3	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	10:46
4	Q. You can answer.	10:46
5	A. It seems like a logical statement.	10:46
б	Q. Okay. And have you ever had any interaction with	10:46
7	Colonel Huyck?	10:46
8	A. Not that I can recall.	10:46
9	Q. All right. How often did you meet with Commander	10:46
10	Marconi, interact with him when you were at Holloman Air Force	10:46
11	Base?	10:46
12	A. Several times a day.	10:46
13	Q. Okay. And that was was that true throughout your	10:46
14	time at Holloman Air Force Base, you know, generally speaking?	10:46
15	A. Yes.	10:46
16	(Document marked Exhibit No. 5.)	10:47
17	Q. Okay. I'm handing you Exhibit No. 5. Could you	10:47
18	please review that just silently to yourself and tell me when	10:47
19	you've had a chance to review it.	10:47
20	A. I've reviewed it.	10:47
21	Q. Okay. Exhibit 5 is marked USA13387 and I've also got	10:48
22	it up on the screen if it's a little easier for you to see.	10:48
23	This is a this is a true and correct copy of actually a	10:48
24	letter, a memorandum that you personally authored, correct?	10:48
25	A. No. I did not author it.	10:48



		HAN MCLEOD-HUGHESJanuary 09, 2020vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA66	
1	Q.	Okay. It says Nathan McLeod-Hughes, who's that?	10:48
2	Α.	I signed it, but did not author it.	10:48
3	Q.	Okay. All right. And I appreciate the specificity.	10:48
4	Okay. Wh	no authored this for you?	10:48
5	Α.	I'm not entirely sure, but I would believe the first	10:48
б	sergeant	did.	10:48
7	Q.	Okay. So this is dated April 7, 2012. Signed by you	10:48
8	Nathan Mc	Leod-Hughes, Major U.S. Air Force, Acting Commander,	10:48
9	49th Logi	stics Readiness Squadron, correct?	10:48
10		MS. KRIEGER: Objection. I think you misstated the	10:48
11	date.		10:48
12		MR. ALSAFFAR: Did I? What did I say.	10:48
13		MS. KRIEGER: I think you said the 7th.	10:48
14	BY MR. AL	SAFFAR:	10:48
15	Q.	Oh. Thank you. Thank you.	10:48
16		Let me restate the question. This letter, memorandum	10:48
17	dated Apr	il 17, 2012, is signed by you as acting commander of	10:49
18	the 49th	Logistics Readiness Squadron, correct?	10:49
19	Α.	It looks like my signature, yes.	10:49
20	Q.	Okay. And that was my next question. That's your	10:49
21	signature	? It looks like your signature, right?	10:49
22	Α.	Correct.	10:49
23	Q.	Okay. And this is a true and correct copy of that	10:49
24	letter, c	correct?	10:49
25	Α.	It appears so.	10:49



	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 67	
1	Q. All right. Anything on here have you seen this	10:49
2	letter before today?	10:49
3	A. I saw it yesterday.	10:49
4	Q. Okay. So this was one of the I think, yeah, this	10:49
5	was one of the documents. It is. This is one of the documents	10:49
б	that you specifically reviewed in preparation for this	10:49
7	deposition, right?	10:49
8	A. Correct.	10:49
9	Q. All right. And you said that your first sergeant	10:49
10	would have helped author and put the contents in one through	10:49
11	four of this letter before you signed it, right?	10:49
12	A. Correct.	10:49
13	Q. And you certainly as acting commander wouldn't sign	10:49
14	anything that you felt was inaccurate or not correct; is that	10:49
15	fair to say?	10:49
16	A. Correct.	10:49
17	Q. All right. So everything in this letter April 17,	10:49
18	2012 is accurate and correct?	10:49
19	A. To the best of my knowledge, yes.	10:49
20	Q. All right. And that's why you signed it, right?	10:49
21	A. Correct.	10:49
22	Q. So let's look at it a little more specifically now.	10:49
23	First, this is a it says a memorandum for AlC Devin Patrick	10:50
24	Kelley, true?	10:50
25	A. Correct.	10:50



	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHESJanuary 09, 2020HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA68	
1	Q. All right. Is Devin Kelley, he's the shooter, right?	10:50
2	A. Correct.	10:50
3	Q. All right. And it says from 49 LRS/CC. When you see	10:50
4	that again that means 49 Logistics Readiness Squadron Command,	10:50
5	right?	10:50
6	A. Commander.	10:50
7	Q. Commander. And that's at this point that's when	10:50
8	you were acting commander?	10:50
9	A. Correct.	10:50
10	Q. So at least we're getting a little specific on when	10:50
11	you were acting commander at Holloman Air Force Base, correct?	10:50
12	A. Correct.	10:50
13	Q. All right. Number 1, it states, "Investigation has	10:50
14	revealed that you physically assaulted Mrs. Tessa K. Kelley on	10:50
15	or about February 17, 2012 at 2629B McKinley Loop, Holloman Air	10:50
16	Force Base, New Mexico." Did I read that correctly?	10:50
17	A. Correct.	10:50
18	Q. And that that so that's stating that Devin	10:50
19	Kelley assaulted Tessa Kelley on Holloman Air Force Base itself	10:51
20	on February 17, 2012, correct?	10:51
21	A. Correct.	10:51
22	Q. The next sentence says, "That on multiple occasions	10:51
23	you physically assaulted your spouse. On this occasion you	10:51
24	punched her in the arm and slapped her with an open hand while	10:51
25	you were involved in a verbal/physical altercation." Is that	10:51



		_
1	correct?	10:51
2	A. Correct.	10:51
3	Q. All right. And so what you're stating is by the	10:51
4	way, where is this being sent? Is this to Devin Kelley	10:51
5	himself?	10:51
б	A. This is to Devin Kelly, correct.	10:51
7	Q. Okay. And where does this this go in the file?	10:51
8	Where do you put this after you send it? Do you keep a copy,	10:51
9	for example?	10:51
10	A. I do not keep a copy, no.	10:51
11	Q. Who does?	10:51
12	A. I believe the first sergeant would normally keep a	10:51
13	copy of this document.	10:51
14	Q. Okay. It sounds to me that when you were either	10:51
15	acting commander or second command and there's any kind of	10:51
16	worrisome involvement of a person in your command like Devin	10:51
17	Kelley, the first sergeant work closely with you was sort of	10:51
18	your right-hand man in managing the file relating to that	10:51
19	person; is that fair to say?	10:52
20	A. Yes.	10:52
21	Q. Okay. And so what would a first sergeant at the time	10:52
22	have done to help author this for your signature to get this	10:52
23	information?	10:52
24	A. I don't know specifically.	10:52
25	Q. Do you know generally?	10:52



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1	A. Would have been likely involved in previous	10:52
2	altercations that this document is referencing.	10:52
3	Q. And how would the first sergeant come about this	10:52
4	information to provide to you such that you would be willing to	10:52
5	sign it and actually issue a reprimand for it?	10:52
6	A. Logically would have gotten from security forces.	10:52
7	Q. Okay. So would the first sergeant under your command	10:52
8	have been communicating with the 49th Security Forces to get	10:52
9	this information?	10:53
10	A. I would infer yes.	10:53
11	Q. Okay. And how would how would that happen? Would	10:53
12	the 49th Security Forces have contacted your first sergeant or	10:53
13	is that how it would work?	10:53
14	A. I don't know how that would have happened.	10:53
15	Q. Okay. So during your experience at Holloman Air	10:53
16	Force Base when you were either in second command or command	10:53
17	how would what's your understanding of how you would become	10:53
18	aware of one of your airmen being subject to not only a	10:53
19	criminal investigation, but also findings that you believe	10:53
20	reasonable grounds were that that persons committing, in this	10:53
21	case an assault?	10:53
22	A. The first sergeant would contact me usually verbally.	10:53
23	More than likely coming into the office that I was occupying at	10:53
24	the time, close the door and pass on the pertinent information.	10:53
25	Q. Do you remember the first sergeant coming to you and	10:53



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	communica	ating this particular incident to you	about Devin
	Kelley?		
	Α.	The particular at the time the in	ncident occurred,
	no.		
	Q.	Okay. The process you described, or	the way you
	would fir	nd out about an airman like Devin Kell	ey assaulting a
,	spouse wo	ould be the first sergeant would come	to you and
}	verbally	communicate that to you? Is that the	e process? Your
)	experienc	ce at Holloman Air Force Base with thi	s and other
)	people ir	n your command who have been subject t	o investigation?
-	Α.	That would be how I would expect it,	yes.
2	Q.	Okay. And when that verbal communic	cation from your
3	first ser	geant would come to you would you inc	quire, well, tell
:	me how di	d you find out about this? Where you	a getting this
- )	informati	on from, etcetera? Do you inquire?	
5	Α.	I don't recall asking that specific	question.
7	Q.	What would you have done you think?	
}	Α.	I would have requested proof	
)	Q.	Okay.	
)	Α.	of why this is happening.	
-	Q.	All right. So and do you believe	e that's what you
	would hav	ve done in this situation with Devin K	Celley, requested
	proof bef	fore signing this kind of memorandum?	
Ī	Α.	If I was receiving it at the time it	happened, yes.
	Q.	Okay. And what kind of proof would	you have

		1
1	requested?	10:55
2	A. If if it was a security forces notification some	10:55
3	sort of document from them highlighting the altercation. If it	10:55
4	was part of a grander investigation I don't know if they would	10:55
5	pass that information on.	10:55
6	Q. Would you have would you have documented that	10:55
7	proof somewhere? Would you have taken note of that saying,	10:55
8	listen, you know, obviously I'm putting this letter together	10:55
9	but I'm also going to contemporaneously document the	10:55
10	information I got to back what I'm saying back up what I'm	10:55
11	saying in this letter?	10:55
12	A. No, I would not.	10:55
13	Q. Okay. And I think from our earlier conversation at	10:55
14	this point April 17, 2012, when you're specifically	10:55
15	reprimanding Devin Kelley for assault, you would not have	10:55
16	inquired or asked about collection of fingerprints or	10:56
17	submission of fingerprints to the FBI; is that fair to say?	10:56
18	A. At the time the letter of reprimand is provided there	10:56
19	is no two way conversation, but there's nothing involving	10:56
20	fingerprints in issuing the document.	10:56
21	Q. So because there's no kind of conversation is my	10:56
22	statement correct, that when you were issuing this reprimand	10:56
23	stating that Devin Kelley's actions violated Article 128 of US	10:56
24	UCMJ-Assault you would not have then followed up or inquired	10:56
25	about fingerprint collection or fingerprint submission to the	10:56



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1	FBI? That's not something you would have done?	10:56
2	A. No, that is not something I would have done.	10:56
3	Q. Okay. And so at this point you had reasonable	10:56
4	grounds yourself to believe that Devin Kelley had committed	10:56
5	assault on his wife, right?	10:56
6	A. Correct.	10:56
7	Q. And that's why you issued this letter, right?	10:56
8	A. Correct.	10:56
9	Q. Okay. So at this point at least the 49 LRS as the	10:56
10	acting commander April 17, 2012, you knew that Devin Kelley was	10:56
11	a dangerous individual; fair to say?	10:57
12	A. Yes.	10:57
13	Q. Okay. Somebody who's assaulting his wife is a	10:57
14	dangerous individual, right?	10:57
15	A. Correct.	10:57
16	Q. Okay. That's somebody who's dangerous to the public.	10:57
17	Would you agree to that?	10:57
18	MS. KRIEGER: Objection to form.	10:57
19	A. I don't know if he's dangerous to the public.	10:57
20	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	10:57
21	Q. Okay. Do you think that people that are willing to	10:57
22	beat their wives are potentially also dangerous to the public?	10:57
23	MS. KRIEGER: Objection to form.	10:57
24	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	10:57
25	Q. People who can't control themselves?	10:57
		]



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1	MS. KRIEGER: Objection.	10:57
2	A. I believe they are dangerous, but I don't know to	10:57
3	who.	10:57
4	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	10:57
5	Q. Okay. Could be dangerous to people other than the	10:57
6	people they're beating up, right?	10:57
7	A. Could be.	10:57
8	Q. All right. Because that's somebody who's not stable;	10:57
9	somebody who beats their wife, right?	10:57
10	A. I would think so, correct.	10:57
11	Q. Somebody who beats children is not a stable person,	10:57
12	somebody who's dangerous. If you beat children and your wife	10:57
13	you're a dangerous person. Would you agree with that?	10:57
14	A. Yes.	10:57
15	MS. KRIEGER: Objection.	10:57
16	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	10:57
17	Q. If you're a person who beats your children and your	10:57
18	wife and you've been trained to use guns it's a heightened	10:57
19	danger as well. Would you agree with that?	10:58
20	MS. KRIEGER: Objection. You can answer.	10:58
21	A. Yes, I would agree to that.	10:58
22	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	10:58
23	Q. Okay. And if you're a person who is somebody who	10:58
24	assaults children and assaults a spouse and you're trained to	10:58
25	use a gun you are somebody who is an increased risk of harm to	10:58



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1	not only those people, but to other people as well in the	10:58
2	public, correct?	10:58
3	MS. KRIEGER: Objection. Calls for speculation.	10:58
4	A. I would say yes.	10:58
5	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	10:58
6	Q. Okay. Now, do at this point in time do you know	10:58
7	let's look at the letter. It's still up there. At this	10:58
8	point in time did your office or you as acting commander	10:58
9	instruct anyone in your office to investigate whether or not	10:59
10	Devin Kelley had his weapons?	10:59
11	A. I did not.	10:59
12	Q. Okay. Did you instruct anybody as the acting	10:59
13	commander of Devin Kelley's unit and squadron to look into	10:59
14	whether or not he still had weapons?	10:59
15	A. No.	10:59
16	Q. Okay. And why was that?	10:59
17	A. It's not my job.	10:59
18	Q. It's not your job. Okay.	10:59
19	A. I don't have the ability to have members of my unit	10:59
20	do that investigation if an investigation is warranted.	10:59
21	Q. Okay. So it's as acting commander of Devin Kelley's	10:59
22	squadron you didn't view it as your job to ensure that somebody	10:59
23	who you believe had assaulted his wife and was you've got	10:59
24	reasonable grounds to believe that he had violated Article 128	10:59
25	Assault needed to have any weapons taken from him?	10:59



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	A. Correct.	1
	MS. KRIEGER: Objection. It misstates prior	1
	testimony. Form.	1
:	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	1
1	Q. Did you you know, at the time that you sent this	1
5	memo, memorandum to his file did you have any concern that he	1
7	had weapons, Devin Kelley had weapons, whether you reported it	1
3	or not?	1
9	A. At this time I was not aware of having weapons.	1
0	Q. Okay. When did you become aware of Devin Kelley's	1
1	confession to both assaulting his wife and assaulting his	1
2	child? His actual confession, do you remember?	1
3	A. How do you define confession?	1
4	Q. Are you aware that Devin Kelley submitted a	1
5	confession video to where he confessed to beating his wife	1
6	multiple times, beating his child multiple times, threatening	1
7	them with weapons to the Air Force 49th Security Forces Wing?	1
8	A. I am not aware of that.	1
9	Q. Are you aware that First Sergeant Tracy Wolfe in	1
0	April 2012 received specifically the video confession video	1
1	of Devin Kelley with the 49th LRS?	1
2	A. No.	1
3	Q. And are you aware that Tracy Wolfe is your first	1
1	sergeant under your command, correct? Tracy Wolfe is the first	: 1
5	sergeant 49th LRS under your command, correct?	1



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1	A. He was under the command, yes.	11:01
2	Q. Okay. And I'm submitting to you that in April 2012	11:01
3	he received he had his hands on the hard drive of a copy of	11:01
4	the confession Devin Kelley submitted. Did he ever communicate	11:01
5	to you that you had that he had the confession video and	11:01
б	that	11:01
7	A. No.	11:01
8	Q. Okay. And so you were not aware that your first	11:01
9	sergeant both had a confession video and submitted it to the	11:01
10	AFOSI as well?	11:01
11	A. Correct.	11:01
12	Q. Would you have wanted to know that one of your airmen	11:01
13	in your command on videotape confessed to multiple crimes,	11:02
14	multiple felonies?	11:02
15	A. Yes.	11:02
16	Q. What would you have done if you had found that out?	11:02
17	A. Talked to the first sergeant to find out what, if	11:02
18	any, there was further grounds that we could do.	11:02
19	Q. Okay. Would you have documented that as well and	11:02
20	followed up to make sure that at that point if you had an	11:02
21	airman like Devin Kelley who had admitted to himself	11:02
22	admitted on video that he beat his wife and beat his children,	11:02
23	or beat a child that you would want to be aware of that to	11:02
24	protect others potentially including the children and the wife,	11:02
25	but also others potentially on the Air Force base?	11:02



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1	MS. KRIEGER: Objection to form. Compound question.	11:02
2	A. I'm not entirely clear on the question.	11:03
3	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	11:03
4	Q. Okay. Let me rephrase it then. Would you want to	11:03
5	first of all, would you want to know when an airman like Devin	11:03
6	Kelley had confessed to violent crimes such as beating his wife	11:03
7	and beating a child?	11:03
8	MS. KRIEGER: Objection. Asked and answered.	11:03
9	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	11:03
10	Q. Would you want to know that?	11:03
11	A. I don't know what would benefit me from gaining that	11:03
12	information if security forces or AFOSI has attained that	11:03
13	information.	11:03
14	Q. Well, let's put aside because my understanding is	11:03
15	that you you just you didn't necessarily know when AFOSI	11:03
16	or security forces were aware of crimes or investigations? I	11:03
17	mean, you didn't always know that was going on, correct?	11:03
18	A. Correct. But if he is on record, video record as	11:04
19	confessing, more than likely security forces or OSI would have	11:04
20	provided that that material to the squadron at which point I	11:04
21	would have presumed they would he would be already under an	11:04
22	investigation.	11:04
23	Q. Okay. So you're making those assumptions?	11:04
24	A. Correct.	11:04
25	Q. Okay. Now, I think you established that if your own	11:04



		, 1
1	if somebody actually in your command under your supervision,	11:04
2	you know, like your first sergeant had been made aware of a	11:04
3	confession video about one of the folks in your command like	11:04
4	Devin Kelley beating a spouse and child that's something you	11:04
5	would want to know about, correct?	11:04
6	A. Correct.	11:04
7	Q. And one of the reason you would want to know about	11:04
8	that is that at that point you would be made aware that there's	11:04
9	somebody in my command that I'm responsible for who is a threat	11:04
10	to people on base, correct?	11:04
11	MS. KRIEGER: Objection to form.	11:04
12	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	11:04
13	Q. Is that one of the reasons you would want to know	11:04
14	that?	11:04
15	A. It would be dependent on the status of that	11:05
16	individual.	11:05
17	Q. What you mean?	11:05
18	A. If the individual is already in custody	11:05
19	Q. Right.	11:05
20	A then at that particular time I don't think he	11:05
21	would be a threat.	11:05
22	Q. Okay. So in other words well, if you were let	11:05
23	me let's break it down a little bit. If you were told	11:05
24	someone like Devin Kelley, which happened he confessed to two	11:05
25	felonies beating a child and beating his spouse, you would	11:05



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1	the safest thing would be for him to be in confinement or jail	11:05
2	at that point, correct?	11:05
3	A. Correct.	11:05
4	Q. Okay. If he wasn't you would want him to be because	11:05
5	he would pose a threat to not only his wife and child but	11:05
б	potentially other people on base, right?	11:05
7	A. Correct.	11:05
8	Q. Okay. Because people confessing to dangerous	11:05
9	felonies let me ask you this: Do you agree that a person	11:05
10	who, like Devin Kelley, confesses to those two crimes is a	11:05
11	dangerous person?	11:05
12	A. Correct.	11:05
13	Q. Okay. And if somebody's a dangerous person who's	11:05
14	been trained with how to use weapons and has weapons confesses	11:06
15	to crimes like that they are a danger not only to his wife and	11:06
16	his kids but also to the public on base and potentially even	11:06
17	outside of base, correct?	11:06
18	MS. KRIEGER: Objection. Calls for speculation.	11:06
19	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	11:06
20	Q. Do you think that's a fair statement?	11:06
21	A. Yes.	11:06
22	Q. Okay. And so if a person like Devin Kelley confesses	11:06
23	to those crimes and who is armed or trained how to use weapons	11:06
24	is not in confinement at that time and you're made aware of it	11:06
25	you'd want to know and want to do something to find out if that	11:06



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1	person is a danger to everybody, right?	11:06
2	A. Correct.	11:06
3	Q. If that person's in your command, fair enough?	11:06
4	A. Correct.	11:06
5	Q. Okay. And Devin Kelley was, at the time he	11:06
б	confessed, he was in your command, right?	11:06
7	A. He was in the squadron, yes.	11:06
8	Q. And I just want to mark this because I don't think we	11:06
9	marked it yet.	11:06
10	(Document marked Exhibit No. 6.)	11:06
11	Q. I'm handing you Exhibit No. 6, and this is a file	11:07
12	that was provided to us in response to our discovery request	11:07
13	and subpoenas in this case, Exhibit No. 6. If you just want to	11:07
14	take a minute. It's a fairly big file. It's got a lot of	11:07
15	stuff in it, but take a look at it and tell me if it looks	11:07
16	familiar at all to you after you've had a chance to skim	11:07
17	through it.	11:07
18	MS. KRIEGER: Excuse me. Sorry.	11:07
19	A. Okay. I've reviewed the first few pages.	11:09
20	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	11:09
21	Q. Okay. And do you does any of this look familiar	11:09
22	to you	11:09
23	A. No.	11:09
24	Q Exhibit 6?	11:09
25	Okay. Now, I will represent and we'll go through	11:09



		1
1	this. There are some things in here that are authored by you	11:09
2	including this letter	11:09
3	A. Okay.	11:09
4	Q in this file, but we'll we've already	11:09
5	identified this so I'm not there's no got you here. I just	11:09
б	want to see if you recognize that file because it's kind of	11:09
7	organized in a way that's a little unusual, and so we're trying	11:09
8	to find out from folks what exactly it looks like to them.	11:09
9	Now, most of this file contains documents from either the 49the	11:09
10	Wing, the 49th Security Forces that were the 49th LRS; is that	11:09
11	fair to say?	11:10
12	A. From the few that I've seen, yes.	11:10
13	Q. Okay. And what I'd like to do is first turn your	11:10
14	attention to I want to ask you a couple of questions about a	11:10
15	couple of documents in here. If you would go to Page 13340,	11:10
16	the top of the page section narrative. Just tell me when you	11:10
17	get there. It's 13340.	11:10
18	A. Okay. I'm there.	11:10
19	Q. Okay. Thanks. First of all, are you familiar do	11:10
20	you know who Ryan Sablan is?	11:10
21	A. No.	11:11
22	Q. Do you know who Ron Rupe is with the security forces?	11:11
23	A. No.	11:11
24	Q. Those names don't sound familiar to you? Okay.	11:11
25	Do you know what the SFMIS is?	11:11



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1	A. No.	11:11
2	Q. All right. When you were at LRS did you have any	11:11
3	kind of electronic system that you used to take notes about	11:11
4	whatever it is your job responsibilities were? Or whatever was	11:11
5	going on, on base in your command? Did you have an electronic	11:11
6	system you used?	11:11
7	A. I had a system that I used to track my information	11:11
8	on.	11:11
9	Q. Okay. For example, when we were showing you that	11:11
10	letter from April 17, 2012, would that have been something you	11:11
11	would have tracked in an electronic system?	11:11
12	A. No.	11:11
13	Q. You wouldn't have put a note somewhere whether it be	11:11
14	an internal note, in an electronic system that, oh, I issued a	11:11
15	letter of reprimand for someone who I believe I have	11:11
16	reasonable grounds and believed committed an assault? You	11:12
17	wouldn't have noted that anywhere on an electronic file system?	11:12
18	A. No.	11:12
19	Q. Okay. You wouldn't have noted that anywhere in any	11:12
20	other kind of system whether it be paper, file or otherwise?	11:12
21	A. I would not have noted it, no.	11:12
22	Q. Okay. And I think what you described to me is the	11:12
23	process for a letter or memorandum like that, the April 17,	11:12
24	2012 memorandum was to go to the first sergeant, first sergeant	11:12
25	communicate with them and then that first sergeant would tell	11:12
		]



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1	you where to put that document?	11:12
2	A. Yes.	11:12
3	Q. Okay. You just don't know where that document would	11:12
4	have gone ultimately?	11:12
5	A. Correct.	11:12
б	Q. Okay. And I'm talking about like a file folder in a	11:12
7	cabinet somewhere. Do you know?	11:12
8	A. I can speculate, but I don't know for definite if the	11:12
9	first sergeant has a file, they do maintain files of some	11:12
10	people. I don't know if this document would go in there. I	11:12
11	don't know at what level documents are no longer kept at the	11:12
12	squadron level or at his level.	11:12
13	Q. All right. And the reason I'm asking is that one of	11:13
14	the things I would think you would be concerned is continuity	11:13
15	of command information. Meaning, that when you would serve as	11:13
16	acting commander you would want other people who were then	11:13
17	stepping in as either commander after you or Marconi or Colonel	11:13
18	Bearden came back they would be aware of what happened while	11:13
19	you were in command, correct?	11:13
20	A. Correct.	11:13
21	Q. That would be a pretty important thing, the April 17,	11:13
22	2012, event when you're issuing a letter of reprimand stating	11:13
23	Devin Kelley you committed I have reasonable grounds to	11:13
24	believe that you committed this assault. You're reprimanded.	11:13
25	That would be something you'd want your subsequent commander or	11:13



		1
1	whoever came in to relieve you of command would know, right?	11:13
2	A. Yes.	11:13
3	Q. So how would they know about that?	11:13
4	A. The first sergeant would probably pass on the	11:13
5	information to the commander.	11:13
б	Q. So you'd rely on that point I would say you step	11:13
7	down, your commander comes back and you're no longer acting	11:13
8	commander you would rely on the first sergeant to at some point	11:14
9	communicate it in some way, shape, or form to the commander	11:14
10	next in the chain that, oh, by the way we got somebody on base	11:14
11	who's a potential threat?	11:14
12	A. Correct.	11:14
13	Q. Okay. And that's how it would happen? There would	11:14
14	be no other separate documentation? Or let's say the first	11:14
15	sergeant forgot how would the command know?	11:14
16	A. To the best of my knowledge it would be the first	11:14
17	sergeant communicating with the commander.	11:14
18	Q. Okay. And if the first sergeant didn't I guess	11:14
19	this would be verbal communication because there's no	11:14
20	documentation, right? There's no system that you're	11:14
21	documenting this happened on April 17th and someone could come	11:14
22	in anyone could come into the system and see	11:14
23	A. Not that I'm aware of.	11:14
24	Q. Okay. And I'm talking about the time 2011-2012.	11:14
25	That's the time period I'm talking about.	11:14



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1	A. Correct.	11:14
2	Q. Okay. Okay. So remember how we had talked earlier	11:14
3	that one of the ways that you got the information could have	11:14
4	gotten the information about the content of that April 2012	11:14
5	letter was the first sergeant communicating with the with	11:14
6	the security forces, correct?	11:14
7	A. Correct.	11:14
8	Q. Okay. And if you look at this document, 13340, this	11:14
9	is February 21, 2012. Do you see that? That's the date of the	11:14
10	report. Do you see that top left? It's called the ROI report	11:14
11	investigation.	11:14
12	A. Correct.	11:15
13	Q. Okay. And then if you look at the next page	11:15
14	13341, and I'll put it up here as well. And if you want to	11:15
15	make this easier I'll just highlight it. See this is an	11:15
16	interview of Tessa Kelley, Devin Kelley's wife on February 17,	11:15
17	2012. You see that?	11:15
18	A. Yes, I see that.	11:15
19	Q. And you remember in your April letter which you have	11:15
20	in front of you as well if you want to see it, Exhibit 5, you	11:15
21	were referencing a February 17, 2012, incident; is that right?	11:16
22	A. Correct.	11:16
23	Q. Okay. And this is a this is a report of the	11:16
24	statement by Tessa Kelley, correct?	11:16
25	A. That's what it looks like, correct.	11:16



		1
1	Q. All right. And if you notice it states that Kelley	11:16
2	provided us a sworn statement essentially stating the first	11:16
3	abuse occurred last July 2011. Do you remember in your letter	11:16
4	you reference that this has been multiple ongoing?	11:16
5	A. Correct.	11:16
б	Q. Okay. And so this abuse had been going on from July	11:16
7	2011 to February 2012. That would be multiple and ongoing	11:16
8	abuse, correct?	11:16
9	A. Correct.	11:16
10	Q. And the next sentence says, "Kelley stated he choked	11:16
11	her in the restroom and on several occasions he's chocked her	11:16
12	because she didn't want to spend Christmas with his family."	11:16
13	Do you see that?	11:16
14	A. Yes, I do.	11:16
15	Q. That's a violent and dangerous guy, correct?	11:16
16	A. Yes.	11:16
17	Q. "On December 24th Kelley stated he pushed her against	11:16
18	the wall, choked her and told her, 'you better pack your bags	11:16
19	or I'll choke you to the and pass out.'" That's an extremely	11:16
20	violent act by Devin Kelley, isn't it, being reported?	11:16
21	A. Yes.	11:17
22	Q. All right. It's a dangerous person, correct?	11:17
23	A. Yes.	11:17
24	Q. That's a person that puts the public and not only Ms.	11:17
25	Kelley, but that's the kind of person that puts the public at	11:17



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1	an increased risk of harm, don't you think?	11
2	MS. KRIEGER: Objection. Calls for speculation.	11
3	A. Yes.	11
ł	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	11
5	Q. Next, "Kelley related she wanted to go for a walk at	11
5	night and Devin told her she couldn't. So they had an argument	11
7	about her going and he proceeded to choke and kick her in the	11
}	stomach." That's a violent and dangerous act, correct?	11
)	A. Correct.	11
)	Q. All right. That's again, that's the kind of	11
L	person that puts Ms. Kelley and others and the public at an	11
2	increased risk of harm, don't you think?	11
3	MS. KRIEGER: Objection.	11
L	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	11
5	Q. Do you think so?	11
5	A. Yes, I think so.	11
7	Q. Okay. The next sentence, "Kelley related before they	11
3	went to marriage counseling they discussed their issues, they	11
)	parked at Bethel Church and he said 'you're 90 percent of our	11
)	problems and if you repeat what I say I'll kill you and drag	11
-	your dead body and desert it.'" That is an extraordinarily	11
)	violent threat, would you agree?	11
3	A. I would agree.	11
ł	Q. Okay. "Kelley stated on multiple occasions"	11
	parenthetically this is me speaking. Just for the record, I	11

	HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 89	)
1	apologize for the following language, but it is what is in the	11:18
2	document. So I'll just state that. I'm going to re-state it.	11:18
3	"Kelley stated on multiple occasions he's called her a bitch,	11:18
4	whore, slut, piece of shit, worthless and your family doesn't	11:18
5	love you. Kelley related they went to get an oil change one	11:18
б	time and in their conversation with the cashier, he placed his	11:18
7	hand on her shoulder (meaning to tell her to shut up), she	11:18
8	slightly moved her shoulder and when they got in the car he	11:18
9	said, 'Don't ever fucking move away from me and when I'm	11:18
10	talking my bitch will keep her mouth shut.'" Do you see that?	11:18
11	A. Yes, I see that.	11:18
12	Q. Again, that's extraordinarily threatening and violent	11:18
13	conduct. Do you agree with that?	11:18
14	A. Yes, I agree.	11:18
15	Q. That's the kind of person that puts the public in	11:18
16	danger and an increased risk of harm if they're allowed to	11:19
17	remain in the public, correct?	11:19
18	MS. KRIEGER: Objection.	11:19
19	A. Agree.	11:19
20	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	11:19
21	Q. Do you think that's the kind of person that should	11:19
22	have access to dangerous weapons like an AR15 or a 38 revolver	11:19
23	or 9mm semi automatic gun?	11:19
24	MS. KRIEGER: Objection. Relevance of what this	11:19
25	witness thinks.	11:19



<pre>not seem like he should have access to weapons. BY MR. ALSAFFAR: Q. Okay. And if a person like this has access to weapons that is the type of thing that exposes the public to danger and an increased risk of harm or danger; is that fair to say? MS. KRIEGER: Objection. A. Agree. BY MR. ALSAFFAR: Q. If you look at the next sentence, "Kelley related heDevin Kelleyhas punched her in the arm and left a bruise. He has told her 'My work is lucky. I'd take a shotgun and blow everyone's head off.'" Now, when this evidence was provided to the 49th Security Forces specifically that Devin Kelley stated "My work is lucky. I'd take a shotgun and blow everyone's head off," that is that is an even more extraordinary violent threat. Do you agree with that? A. Yes. Q. And what he's talking about is "my work," that's your squadron that you were at this time acting commander of, correct? A. I don't know if I was acting commander at that time. Q. Okay. Well, in a couple of weeks after that you</pre>		MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHESJanuary 09, 2020HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA90
<ul> <li>BY MR. ALSAFFAR:</li> <li>Q. Okay. And if a person like this has access to</li> <li>weapons that is the type of thing that exposes the public to</li> <li>danger and an increased risk of harm or danger; is that fair to</li> <li>say?</li> <li>MS. KRIEGER: Objection.</li> <li>A. Agree.</li> <li>BY MR. ALSAFFAR:</li> <li>Q. If you look at the next sentence, "Kelley related</li> <li>heDevin Kelleyhas punched her in the arm and left a bruise.</li> <li>He has told her 'My work is lucky. I'd take a shotgun and blow</li> <li>everyone's head off.'" Now, when this evidence was provided to</li> <li>the 49th Security Forces specifically that Devin Kelley stated</li> <li>"My work is lucky. I'd take a shotgun and blow everyone's head</li> <li>off," that is that is an even more extraordinary violent</li> <li>threat. Do you agree with that?</li> <li>A. Yes.</li> <li>Q. And what he's talking about is "my work," that's your</li> <li>squadron that you were at this time acting commander of,</li> <li>correct?</li> <li>A. I don't know if I was acting commander at that time.</li> <li>Q. Okay. Well, in a couple of weeks after that you</li> </ul>	1	A. I don't know about the types of weapons, but it does
<ul> <li>Q. Okay. And if a person like this has access to</li> <li>weapons that is the type of thing that exposes the public to</li> <li>danger and an increased risk of harm or danger; is that fair to</li> <li>say?</li> <li>MS. KRIEGER: Objection.</li> <li>A. Agree.</li> <li>BY MR. ALSAFFAR: <ul> <li>Q. If you look at the next sentence, "Kelley related</li> <li>heDevin Kelleyhas punched her in the arm and left a bruise.</li> <li>He has told her 'My work is lucky. I'd take a shotgun and blow</li> <li>everyone's head off.'" Now, when this evidence was provided to</li> <li>the 49th Security Forces specifically that Devin Kelley stated</li> <li>"My work is lucky. I'd take a shotgun and blow everyone's head</li> <li>off," that is that is an even more extraordinary violent</li> <li>threat. Do you agree with that?</li> <li>A. Yes.</li> <li>Q. And what he's talking about is "my work," that's your</li> <li>squadron that you were at this time acting commander of,</li> <li>correct?</li> <li>A. I don't know if I was acting commander at that time.</li> <li>Q. Okay. Well, in a couple of weeks after that you</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	2	not seem like he should have access to weapons.
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Q. Okay. Well, in a couple of weeks after that you	22	correct?
	23	A. I don't know if I was acting commander at that time.
5 were, correct? April 2012?	24	Q. Okay. Well, in a couple of weeks after that you
	5	were, correct? April 2012?



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1	A. Yes. Several weeks after that.	11:20
2	Q. Okay. So about three weeks later actually a month	11:20
3	later. We know at the very least a month later you were acting	11:20
4	commander of Devin Kelley's work, correct?	11:20
5	MS. KRIEGER: Objection. Misstates the evidence.	11:20
6	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	11:20
7	Q. Let me make sure I'm not misstating the evidence.	11:20
8	According to Exhibit 5, April 17, 2012 I get it now. I get	11:21
9	it. I get it. You're right. I did misstate the evidence.	11:21
10	We know within two months after this report April 17,	11:21
11	2012, you were the acting commander of Devin Kelley's work,	11:21
12	correct?	11:21
13	A. Correct.	11:21
14	Q. So two months prior when you were acting commander,	11:21
15	at the very least we know that Devin Kelley was making a threat	11:21
16	that he would take a shotgun and blow everyone's head of at	11:21
17	work, which is the 49th LRS, correct?	11:21
18	MS. KRIEGER: Objection to form.	11:21
19	A. In the squadron, yes.	11:21
20	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	11:21
21	Q. All right. And at the very least you were act I'm	11:21
22	sorry you were second in command at this time of Devin	11:21
23	Kelley's workplace, February 17, 2012, right?	11:21
24	A. I was not acting commander on February 17th.	11:21
25	Q. Did I say acting commander?	11:21



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1	A. Yes.	11:21
2	Q. I didn't mean to say that. I apologize. At the very	11:21
3	least we know you were second in command?	11:22
4	A. Yes.	11:22
5	Q. And so we know at the time that he threatened his	11:22
б	workplace with this shooting you were second in command at	11:22
7	Holloman Air Force Base, 49th LRS?	11:22
8	A. Correct.	11:22
9	Q. And that's where Devin Kelley worked, correct?	11:22
10	A. Yes. He worked in the squadron.	11:22
11	Q. So this is evidence from Ms. Kelley testifying under	11:22
12	oath that Devin Kelley made a specific threat to commit a mass	11:22
13	shooting, right?	11:22
14	A. I don't	11:22
15	MS. KRIEGER: Objection. Assumes facts not in	11:22
16	evidence.	11:22
17	A. I don't know if that if that makes a mass shooting	11:22
18	in his statement.	11:22
19	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	11:22
20	Q. Okay. Well, let's let's break it down a little	11:22
21	bit. "My work is lucky. I'd take a shotgun and blow	11:22
22	everyone's head off." That's more than he's making a threat	11:22
23	using a gun to kill more than one person. In fact, he's saying	11:22
24	everyone, correct?	11:22
25	A. Correct.	11:22



		1
1	Q. Okay. On February it goes on, "On February" so	11:23
2	at this point let me just rephrase. At this point February	11:23
3	14, 2012, 49th Security Forces knows that Devin Kelley has	11:23
4	stated a treat that involves a potential mass shooting, right?	11:23
5	MS. KRIEGER: Objection. The document speaks for	11:23
б	itself.	11:23
7	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	11:23
8	Q. You can answer.	11:23
9	A. I don't know what is considered a mass shooting, but	11:23
10	that he would shoot more than one person, yes.	11:23
11	Q. Okay. Whether or not you define shooting everyone at	11:23
12	work and blowing their head off is a mass shooting and	11:23
13	certainly threatening shooting more than one person in a	11:23
14	violent manner, correct?	11:23
15	A. Correct.	11:23
16	Q. Okay. And the Air Force was aware the 49th was	11:23
17	aware of this on February 17, 2012, correct?	11:23
18	A. The 49th was. I don't know how you define the Air	11:23
19	Force. If you're defining it as the security forces as being	11:23
20	part of the Air Force, then yes.	11:23
21	Q. I am defining that. So when I say "Air Force" I mean	11:24
22	and that's a correct statement, right? The 49th Security	11:24
23	Forces is a part of the Air Force, right?	11:24
24	A. It is a part of the Air Force.	11:24
25	Q. Okay. And so if the 49th was aware of it then the	11:24
		]



		r 7
1	Air Force was aware on February 17, 2012, that that evidence of	11:24
2	a threat was made for a very violent shooting?	11:24
3	A. Well, a portion of the Air Force was	11:24
4	Q. That's fine.	11:24
5	A. I don't mean to quibble, but	11:24
6	Q. That's okay.	11:24
7	A if you say the Air Force it makes it seem a larger	11:24
8	group.	11:24
9	Q. I understand. I understand. Okay. Well, we can	11:24
10	keep it to what you're comfortable with. And what we do know	11:24
11	is that the 49th Security Forces which is part of the Air	11:24
12	Force, was aware that they had evidence on February 7, 2012,	11:24
13	that Devin Kelly was making a specific threat to blow	11:24
14	everyone's head off?	11:24
15	A. Agreed.	11:24
16	Q. Okay. Now, let's look at the next statement, "Kelley	11:24
17	on February 11, 2012, they headed to their counseling at 0930	11:25
18	hours and was pulled over and after he dropped his friends off	11:25
19	he told her 'You worthless piece of shit. If you have my	11:25
20	friends ready to go I wouldn't have gotten a ticket' and they	11:25
21	were still five minutes early to their appointment."	11:25
22	Again, this is another this is a very specific	11:25
23	Ms. Kelley's relating, very, very, very specific time sensitive	11:25
24	detail facts about Devin Kelley, right?	11:25
25	A. Correct.	11:25



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1	Q. This is very much not a general, well, he's hurting	11:25
2	me and beating me. She's giving not only specific times,	11:25
3	specific locations to verify, but very specific words and	11:25
4	threats that he is using, right?	11:25
5	A. Yes.	11:25
б	Q. Okay. And if you look a little bit up, and I'm just	11:25
7	going to highlight this because I'm going back up to it, it	11:25
8	will make it easier.	11:25
9	(Brief interruption.)	11:25
10	Q. And, sir, I've highlighted another portion of this	11:26
11	February 17, 2012, statement. "Kelleymeaning Devin Kelley	11:26
12	stated he dragged her by her hair into the bathroom and said,	11:26
13	'I'm going to water board you' and stuck her head into the	11:26
14	shower head." Do you see that?	11:26
15	A. Yes, I do.	11:26
16	Q. And I know this is a lot of information, but again I	11:26
17	want to ask you, this is also another very specific example of	11:26
18	a very disturbing, dangerous, and violent threat that Devin	11:26
19	Kelley made, correct?	11:27
20	A. Correct.	11:27
21	Q. And the Air the Air Force DAF, the security forces	11:27
22	49th was aware of this on February 17, 2012, right?	11:27
23	A. Correct.	11:27
24	Q. Okay. Okay. Let me ask you about, you had spoken	11:27
25	earlier about sort of how the communication would happen	11:27



		1
1	between potentially you you're department at LRS and the	11:27
2	security forces. And I want to show down a little bit farther	11:27
3	the next entry which states, "Interview of Tessa Kelley on	11:27
4	February 17, 2012." Do you know where that Building 35, Room	11:27
5	12 is located? Is that do you know where that is?	11:27
б	A. No.	11:27
7	Q. Okay. Now, this is this little bit below under	11:28
8	subject interview actually of Devin Kelley. Do you see that?	11:28
9	A. Yes.	11:28
10	Q. Okay. I'll pull that up to make it a little bit	11:28
11	subject interview of Devin Kelley on February 17, 2012. Do you	11:28
12	know where I think you already told me you don't know who	11:28
13	Sergeant Sablan or Detective Rupe is, correct?	11:28
14	A. Correct.	11:28
15	Q. Here "Devin Kelley is brought to the 49th Security	11:28
16	Forces, advised of his rights and asked for an attorney and	11:28
17	refuses to answer questions." Do you see that?	11:28
18	A. Yes.	11:28
19	Q. And then it states, "Kelley was released to TSergeant	11:28
20	Schafer/First Sergeant via DD Form 2708." Do you see that?	11:28
21	A. Yes, I do.	11:28
22	Q. "Receipt for Inmate or Detained Person (Exhibit 2)."	11:29
23	Do you know who TSergeant is/First Sergeant? Do you know who	11:29
24	that is?	11:29
25	A. TSergeant is technical sergeant.	11:29



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1	Q. Okay.	11:29
2	A. Just for reference, he would have been an acting	11:29
3	first sergeant at the time.	11:29
4	Q. Do you know who that is, Schafer?	11:29
5	A. I believe I had met him before.	11:29
6	Q. Okay.	11:29
7	A. But I don't recall the specifics.	11:29
8	Q. Is technical sergeant a sergeant that would have been	11:29
9	within in the 49th LRS command? If you know.	11:29
10	A. I would say I think the answer is yes.	11:29
11	Q. Okay. You've been because when Tracy Wolfe's	11:29
12	designation was TSergeant/First Sergeant, I'm going to	11:29
13	represent to you	11:29
14	A. Okay.	11:29
15	Q everywhere I've seen her name in the file. Sorry.	11:29
16	His name in the file and so when I saw this and then when we	11:30
17	had this conversation earlier about the communication how it	11:30
18	seems to me the first sergeant is sort of your key connector	11:30
19	when this kind of stuff is happening and they're communicating	11:30
20	with the 49th Security Forces that looked to me like, oh,	11:30
21	that's who that's the kind of person that Major Hughes,	11:30
22	maybe McLeod-Hughes is referring to. That when he said I go to	11:30
23	my first sergeant who would then get that information from	11:30
24	security forces, is that who is that possibly who TSergeant	11:30
25	Schafer is in this situation?	11:30
		1



MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES
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		1
1	A. Yes.	11:30
2	Q. I remember you also told me that the TSergeant/First	11:30
3	Sergeant Wolfe would be the person who was sort of the	11:30
4	supervisory person for people under your command like Devin	11:30
5	Kelley who had these kinds of problems. That was the go-to	11:30
6	person. Remember we had that conversation?	11:30
7	A. He's not a supervisory role, but, yes, he would be	11:31
8	the person that we would go to.	11:31
9	Q. Okay. And and maybe supervisory role is not the	11:31
10	best thing, but what we know here is in February 17, 2012,	11:31
11	Kelley was actually released to this T Technical	11:31
12	Sergeant/First Sergeant Schafer, right? That means what	11:31
13	does that mean to you? If you know.	11:31
14	A. It means he was arrested and released to Sergeant	11:31
15	Schafer until something could until further investigation	11:31
16	occurred.	11:31
17	Q. Okay. Now, does that mean that at that point when a	11:31
18	person like Devin Kelley is accused of these violent assaults	11:31
19	and threats and then is released to a particular staff sergeant	11:31
20	I'm sorry first sergeant/technical sergeant, does that	11:31
21	mean that person is under that persons sort of, I don't want to	11:31
22	say supervision, but they're they are not they're	11:31
23	escorted and not they're under that person's command?	11:32
24	MS. KRIEGER: Objection. Confusing.	11:32
25	A. I don't know what they mean if they're by	11:32



		7
1	released.	11:32
2	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	11:32
3	Q. It looks like released into their custody to me, but	11:32
4	I don't want to put words in your mouth. Is that your	11:32
5	understanding of that relationship?	11:32
б	A. In with my understanding, yes.	11:32
7	Q. Okay.	11:32
8	A. I don't know what in their definition of released	11:32
9	might be different than my understanding of the definition.	11:32
10	Q. Sure. No. That's fair. Now, did you ever have an	11:32
11	instance not just with Devin Kelley, but with anybody in your	11:32
12	who was under your command or under your supervision at	11:32
13	Holloman Air Force Base who was released into custody of first	11:32
14	sergeants?	11:32
15	A. Not that I can recall.	11:32
16	Q. Okay. The next page I want to and I'll highlight	11:33
17	that a little bit for you. The next page is just the	11:33
18	continuation of the final finalization of that particular	11:33
19	interview in February 17, 2012. It says, "That we received	11:33
20	two photographs, we can see bruises on Tessa's left arm."	11:33
21	The next section is Law Enforcement Records. "On	11:33
22	February 28, 2012, a check of the Security Forces Management	11:33
23	Information System was conducted on Kelley." Do you see that?	11:33
24	A. Yes, I do.	11:33
25	Q. Okay. And then it says Exhibits. The following	11:33

		, 1
1	items are appended to this report. Statement by Tessa Kelley;	11:33
2	DD Form 2708; and four photographs.	11:33
3	Do you see that?	11:33
4	A. Yes, I do.	11:33
5	Q. And then it says, "Investigative Status closed." Do	11:33
б	you see that?	11:33
7	A. Yes, I do.	11:33
8	Q. It says David Boyd "Reviewed by David Boyd, Major,	11:34
9	U.S. Air Force Commander." Do you know who that is?	11:34
10	A. Based on the document coming from security forces I	11:34
11	would presume Major Boyd was the commander of the security	11:34
12	forces squadron at that time.	11:34
13	Q. Do you know who Major Boyd is?	11:34
14	A. I had I'm speculating, but I believe I would have	11:34
15	met him on the few occasions	11:34
16	Q. Okay.	11:34
17	A outside of work.	11:34
18	Q. Now, I'm just showing you back to the page before it	11:34
19	under at the very bottom, other investigative aspects. It's	11:34
20	talking about the photographs received. Next page it talks	11:34
21	about the photographs received. Then the law enforcement	11:34
22	records and the exhibits, and then case closed. All right. So	11:34
23	re-orienting you. All right. Now	11:34
24	A. Okay.	11:34
25	Q nowhere on this report do we see from that day do	11:34



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1	we see that Devin Kelley's fingerprints were taken; is that	11
2	fair?	11
3	A. Correct.	11
4	Q. And you do have both pages in front of you. And	11
5	nowhere on this report does it state anywhere that his	11
6	fingerprints were obviously submitted to the FBI after	11
7	receiving this evidence of assault, correct?	11
8	MS. KRIEGER: Objection. The document speaks for	11
9	itself.	11
10	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	11
11	Q. You can answer whenever you're ready.	11
12	A. No. I do not see reference to that.	11
13	Q. Okay. And when you're saying "I don't see reference	11
14	to that," nowhere do you see that the security forces submitted	11
15	Devin Kelley's fingerprints to the FBI on this day, correct?	11
16	A. Not on this document, no.	11
17	Q. Turning your attention you can flip to it as well,	11
18	Exhibit No. 6 but it's also on the screen for you, Page 13351.	11
19	A. Okay. I can see that.	11
20	Q. And it's May 2, 2012, a Memorandum for Alamogordo	11
21	Municipal Court. Do you see that?	11
22	A. Yes, I see that.	11
23	Q. And it says it's from 49 AMXS/CCF. Can you tell me	11
24	what that means?	11
25	A. AMXS is Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and CCF is the	11



#### MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 102 1 three character digit used for first sergeant. 11:36 2 Okay. Is the Aircraft Maintenance Squadron is that 11:36 0. 3 where Devin Kelley was officially employed with the Air Force? 11:36 4 If you know. Is that what that means? 11:36 5 Α. No, that's not what that means. 11:36 Is that where Tracy Wolfe was employed? 11:37 6 0. 7 I -- speculating off of what I interpret reading he Α. 11:37 8 was probably administratively attached to the -- or to that 11:37 particular squadron --9 11:37 10 0. Okay. 11:37 11 -- serving as the first sergeant in our -- in the LRS 11:37 Α. 12 Squadron. 11:37 13 0. Okay. And this May 2, 2012, document is signed by 11:37 14 Tracy Wolfe, MSergeant, U.S. Air Force, First Sergeant, 49th 11:37 15 Logistics Readiness Squadron, correct? 11:37 16 Α. 11:37 Correct. This is the Tracy Wolfe we've been talking about all 11:37 17 0. 18 day today, correct? Same one? 11:37 19 Α. I would say yes. 11:37 20 0. Was there another Tracy Wolfe that worked with you at 11:37 21 Holloman Air Force Base --11:37 22 Α. No. 11:37 23 -- that was also a first sergeant? 11:37 0. 24 Okay. Okay. 11:37 25 Α. That's a no. 11:37



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1	Q.	Uh?	11:37
2	Α.	That is a no.	11:37
3	Q.	That's a no. Okay. Thank you. Thank you.	11:37
4		All right. Now, this May 2, 2012, letter about Devin	11:37
5	Kelley, M	Ir. Wolfe I'm sorry, Sergeant Wolfe is saying, "On	11:37
б	April 29,	2012, Devin Kelley was hospitalized at Peak	11:38
7	Behaviora	l Institute in Santa Rosa, New Mexico. Do you see	11:38
8	that?		11:38
9	Α.	Yes.	11:38
10	Q.	Now you do you know what Peak is, Behavioral	11:38
11	Institute	e is?	11:38
12	Α.	I have been told it was a mental health facility.	11:38
13	Q.	Okay. Who who would have told you that?	11:38
14	Α.	My commander or the first sergeant at the time.	11:38
15	Q.	Okay. And	11:38
16	Α.	But it also it is generalized common knowledge to	11:38
17	a limited	l selection of people I believe that that's what that	11:38
18	facility	is.	11:38
19	Q.	Okay. That was my next question: Would you have	11:38
20	known as	well that that was a mental health facility just	11:38
21	because i	t was near where the base was?	11:38
22	Α.	Until this incident, no.	11:38
23	Q.	Okay. Do you know who Robert Cole is? Colonel	11:39
24	Robert Co	le, Mission Support Group Commander?	11:39
25	Α.	Yes.	11:39



			r 7
1	Q.	Okay. And did I state that correctly? He was	11:39
2	Mission S <sup>.</sup>	upport Group Commander?	11:39
3	Α.	I believe so, yes.	11:39
4	Q.	Okay. When you were at Holloman Air Force Base?	11:39
5	Α.	I did not remember it at the time, but yes.	11:39
б		(Document marked Exhibit No. 7.)	11:39
7	Q.	I'm going to show you Exhibit No. 7 and Exhibit No.	11:39
8	7 is a le	tter dated May 17, 2012, regarding Devin Kelley,	11:39
9	Memorandu	m 4 49 LRS/CC, correct? Am I correct?	11:39
10	Α.	Correct.	11:39
11	Q.	And that again, this is memorandum for 49	11:40
12	Logistics	Readiness Squadron and the commander, correct?	11:40
13	Α.	Correct.	11:40
14	Q.	And the commander at the time again on May 17, 2012,	11:40
15	was Frank	Marconi, Lieutenant Colonel and he signed it on May	11:40
16	17, 2012,	as well, correct?	11:40
17	Α.	Correct.	11:40
18	Q.	And it's from Robert Cole, correct?	11:40
19	Α.	Correct.	11:40
20	Q.	All right. And this is remember how earlier we	11:40
21	talked ab	out an October 2011 letter that showed, from the	11:40
22	Central R	egistry Board Incident Determination earlier in the	11:40
23	depositio	n and we were talking about the Central Registry	11:40
24	Board?		11:40
25	Α.	I don't remember the date, but yes, I remember that	11:40



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L	one.	1
2	Q. Okay. Now, this is another letter. It's now May 17,	11
3	2012, stating under Number 1, "The CRB, the Central Registry	11
4	Board, met on May 17, 2012 to review incident 20120023	11
5	involving Devin Kelley. The allegation was adult physical	11
6	maltreatment, emotional maltreatment of Tessa Kelley by Devin	11
7	Kelley." Do you see that?	11
8	A. Yes, I do.	1
9	Q. "And the board determined the incident met the	1
0	criteria for adult physical maltreatment, emotional	1
1	maltreatment and entry into the DoD Central"	1
2	That's okay. First time. I appreciate it. I'll	1
3	restate it.	1
4	"The board determined the incident met the criteria	1
5	for adult physical maltreatment, emotional maltreatment and	1
6	entry into the DoD Central Registry database."	1
7	Did I read that correctly?	1
8	A. Yes.	1
9	Q. Okay. Remember back in the earlier CRB letter to the	1
0	40 from the 49th in October 2011, the CRB made the	1
1	determination that Devin Kelley met the criteria for child	1
2	mistreatment maltreatment. Do you remember that	1
3	conversation?	1
4	A. Yes.	11
5	Q. And this one is stating that "In May 17, 2012, the	1

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1	CRB has also determined that Devin Kelley met the criteria for	11:41
2	adult physical maltreatment, emotional maltreatment and entry	11:41
3	into the DoD CR database," correct?	11:41
4	A. Correct.	11:42
5	Q. Okay. So now we have the 49th LRS being notified and	11:42
6	confirming that the CRB has has determined that Devin Kelley	11:42
7	met both the criteria for child maltreatment and adult	11:42
8	maltreatment, fair?	11:42
9	A. Fair.	11:42
10	Q. All right. And again just like earlier with the	11:42
11	child maltreatment we have the CRB having informing the 49th	11:42
12	LRS that there's reasonable grounds to believe that Devin	11:42
13	Kelley has engaged in adult physical maltreatment, fair?	11:42
14	A. Yes.	11:42
15	(Document marked Exhibit No. 8.)	11:42
16	Q. Okay. Now, let's look not quite yet. I want to	11:42
17	show you thank you. I'm going to show you Exhibit No. 8.	11:43
18	Sir, have you ever seen this before?	11:43
19	A. No.	11:43
20	Q. Okay. So this is a document that was found well,	11:43
21	it was provided to us from the 49th file, at least I guess the	11:43
22	security forces file and also from the AFOSI file from Holloman	11:43
23	Air Force Base. And why don't you just look at it real quick.	11:43
24	Look it over. It's only one page and then we'll talk about for	11:43
25	a sec.	11:43



	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 107	
1	A. Okay. I've completed it.	11:44
2	Q. Okay. Now, this is dated June 7, 2012, and this is	11:44
3	from Xavier Alvarez, Director of Military Affairs. Now, do you	11:44
4	remember just a few minutes ago we were talking about Devin	11:44
5	Kelley's entry into Peak Behavioral Medical Mental	11:45
б	Institution?	11:45
7	A. Yes.	11:45
8	Q. Okay. And this document is from the director of	11:45
9	military affairs is documenting his escape from Peak	11:45
10	Behavioral, correct?	11:45
11	A. Correct.	11:45
12	Q. And the what we also learn from this document is	11:45
13	that while he was in the mental institution the they learn	11:45
14	after doing a computer audit that computer results I'm	11:45
15	quoting now "Computer results showed that Devin Kelley had	11:45
16	been searching for weapons, body armor, transport to San	11:45
17	Antonio and lodging while he was at the mental institution,"	11:45
18	correct?	11:45
19	A. Correct.	11:45
20	Q. All right. Now that's alarming, right?	11:45
21	A. Yes.	11:45
22	Q. Okay. And were you ever informed as one of Devin	11:46
23	Kelley's supervisors at the 49th LRS that he was looking for	11:46
24	weapons and body armor while he was in a mental institution?	11:46
25	A. No.	11:46



	HOLCOMBE VS UNITED STATES OF AMERICA 108	
1	MS. KRIEGER: Objection. Assumes facts not in	11:46
2	evidence.	11:46
3	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	11:46
4	Q. Now you see there a little below let me highlight	11:46
5	it for you, because it's a massive paragraph. This letter also	11:46
6	states that, "Throughout this this process MSergeant Wolf	11:46
7	and Major Nordin were in constant communication with Director	11:46
8	Alvarez." Do you see that?	11:46
9	A. Yes, I do.	11:46
10	Q. Okay. Did Sergeant Wolfe ever talk to you or	11:46
11	communicate to you or document for you that this was going on	11:46
12	with Devin Kelley at this time?	11:47
13	A. I remember a conversation with somebody letting me	11:47
14	know that the member had attempted to escape, was caught at the	11:47
15	bus stop bus station. But the specific details in here not	11:47
16	all I was not all aware of.	11:47
17	Q. Okay. Now do you know that Devin Kelley had body	11:47
18	armor on his person when he killed those 26 people in the	11:47
19	Sutherland Springs Church?	11:47
20	A. No, I did not.	11:47
21	Q. I think you said, and I think you agree, that it was	11:47
22	alarming that someone like Devin Kelley who's in a mental	11:47
23	institution was searching for weapons and body armor. Do you	11:47
24	remember that?	11:47
25	MS. KRIEGER: Objection. Misstates	11:47
		]



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1	BY MR. AI	LSAFFAR:	11:47
2	Q.	That that's alarming?	11:47
3		MS. KRIEGER: previous testimony.	11:47
4	Α.	Yes.	11:47
5	BY MR. AI	LSAFFAR:	11:47
6	Q.	Why do you think that's alarming?	11:48
7	Α.	It seems like he would be considering dangerous	11:48
8	actions.		11:48
9	Q.	With a with weapons, correct?	11:48
10	Α.	Correct.	11:48
11	Q.	And dangerous actions where he wants to protect	11:48
12	himself :	from bullets?	11:48
13	Α.	Protect himself from something, yes.	11:48
14	Q.	That's what body armor is for, right?	11:48
15	Α.	Could be, yes.	11:48
16	Q.	And now in 2012, when this report was coming in when	11:48
17	your fir:	st sergeant was being made aware of his search for	11:48
18	weapons a	and body armor while he was in a mental hospital 2012,	11:48
19	I mean, :	it was well-known throughout the country we had a lot	11:48
20	of mass s	shootings by then even by then, right?	11:48
21	Α.	I don't remember specifics.	11:48
22	Q.	Oh. I know that. I mean, in fact, it's almost hard	11:48
23	to rememb	per specifics about mass shootings because they	11:48
24	happened	so much. Unfortunately that's the state of affairs.	11:48
25	Α.	I would agree to that statement.	11:48



		1
1	Q. Yeah. And there had been a lot of mass shootings on	11:48
2	bases recently and back then: The Fort Hood shooting; the Navy	11:48
3	spring shooting recently; the Pensacola shooting, the shooting	11:49
4	in the recruitment offices. Remember those?	11:49
5	A. Yes.	11:49
б	Q. All happened not only on bases but in this timeframe	11:49
7	there were mass shootings happening all over America: Movie	11:49
8	theaters, parks, schools, right?	11:49
9	A. I don't know timeframes of those particular	11:49
10	instances, but I do remember	11:49
11	Q. Yeah.	11:49
12	A instances happening.	11:49
13	Q. Okay. And in those instances when all these mass	11:49
14	shootings were happening in the past back then and currently, a	11:49
15	lot of those times the person committing the mass shootings had	11:49
16	body armor on? Do you have a memory of that?	11:49
17	A. No, I don't have a memory of that.	11:49
18	Q. Okay. You just don't didn't don't know either	11:49
19	way? It's okay if you don't. I'm just saying body armor is	11:49
20	something that's commonly used in mass shootings by the	11:49
21	perpetrators, fair?	11:49
22	A. I don't know.	11:49
23	Q. Okay. If you as the supervisor of Devin Kelley were	11:49
24	told at this time, and I think eventually at some point very	11:49
25	soon after this you were, that Devin Kelley was searching for	11:49



		1
1	weapons while he was in the institution and was also looking	11:50
2	for body armor would you have been concerned or reasonably	11:50
3	concerned that maybe he was going to do something like a mass	11:50
4	type shooting?	11:50
5	MS. KRIEGER: Objection to form. Assumes facts not	11:50
б	in evidence. Calls for speculation.	11:50
7	A. I would be concerned that that would be something he	11:50
8	would want to do.	11:50
9	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	11:50
10	Q. That's what I meant. Okay.	11:50
11	Let me show you let me mark this as an exhibit.	11:50
12	Actually, it's in here. Let me pull it to your attention. if	11:50
13	you would look at Exhibit No. 6 and I'll also pull it up here.	11:50
14	We don't need to double mark it. It's right around here,	11:50
15	13374. The following day. So part of Exhibit 6 we're looking	11:51
16	at Page 13374. The following day, the day after this June 7th	11:51
17	letter that we just showed you, Exhibit No. 8, you penned and	11:51
18	you signed, sent out that's okay this memorandum dated	11:51
19	June 8, 2012; is that correct?	11:51
20	A. Correct.	11:51
21	Q. All right. I want to talk about this memorandum.	11:51
22	It's regarding Devin Kelley, correct?	11:51
23	A. Correct.	11:51
24	Q. That's your signature on Page 13376, correct?	11:51
25	A. Yes. It looks like my signature.	11:51



1	Q. Okay. And at this time, so again we've got another	11:52
2	time specific June 8, 2012, so the day after he escaped the	11:52
3	mental institution we know that you were at least at the time	11:52
4	the commander of 49th LRS at Holloman Air Force Base, correct?	11:52
5	A. Correct.	11:52
б	Q. All right. And this is a memorandum for let's	11:52
7	talk about who this was sent to. This was sent to when it	11:52
8	says Memorandum 4 that means it was sent to these particular	11:52
9	places; is that fair?	11:52
10	A. Yes.	11:52
11	Q. Okay. I didn't want to put words in your mouth.	11:52
12	It says Memorandum for 49 WG/JA. Can you tell us	11:52
13	what that is?	11:52
14	A. That would be the judge advocate office.	11:52
15	Q. Okay. So your the next one 49WC/CC. Can you tell	11:52
16	me what that is?	11:52
17	A. The wing commander.	11:52
18	Q. And then PCRO?	11:52
19	A. Don't know what that means.	11:52
20	Q. In Turn?	11:52
21	A. In Turn usually it would go to sequential listing.	11:52
22	So it would go to the judge advocate office first, then to the	11:52
23	commander, then to PCR.	11:52
24	Q. Go it. So so	11:53
25	A. PCR might be Peak Correctional something office.	11:53



		1
1	Q. Okay. And the first statement you say, "In	11:53
2	accordance with RCM 305, I approve the continued pretrial	11:53
3	confinement of Devin Kelley, 49 Logistics Readiness Squadron."	11:53
4	Do you see that?	11:53
5	A. Yes, I do.	11:53
б	Q. So we know at this point that Devin Kelley's in	11:53
7	confinement? He's in some kind of jail facility, right?	11:53
8	A. He's in some sort of facility.	11:53
9	Q. He's being protected from the public at this point,	11:53
10	correct?	11:53
11	A. Correct.	11:53
12	Q. He's under arrest, correct?	11:53
13	A. Correct.	11:53
14	Q. Okay. And if you look down, a little bit down to the	11:53
15	bottom of the first page, second. Do you see that? I'm	11:53
16	highlighting it for you.	11:53
17	A. Yes.	11:53
18	Q. It says Second I "Second, I have reasonable	11:53
19	grounds to believe continued pretrial confinement is necessary	11:53
20	because it is foreseeable that the confinee will not appear at	11:54
21	trial, and/or will engage in serious criminal misconduct if	11:54
22	confinement is not continued." Do you see that?	11:54
23	A. Yes, I do.	11:54
24	Q. So at this point you're saying you have reasonable	11:54
25	grounds to believe that Devin Kelley is a very specific threat	11:54
		Í



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and da	nger to the public at large, right?
A	Yes.
Q	And it's not just limited to Devin Kelley is a danger
to one	specific person. You are stating that you have probable
cause	to believe he is a specific danger to the general public?
	MS. KRIEGER: Objection. Misstates evidence.
BY MR.	ALSAFFER;
Q	Well, let me restate it. At this point in time
I'm as	ing you as the commander of the 49th LRS, June 8, 2012,
you be	ieve there was reasonable grounds to believe that Devin.
Kelley	was specifically dangerous to the public and that's why
he nee	led to stay in confinement?
A	Yes.
Q	Okay. And you had reasonable grounds to believe that
he had	committed assaults on his wife and by this time you knew
child	as well?
A	Yes.
Q	Okay. And you had reasonable grounds to believe that
he has	committed specific threats not only to his wife and his
child,	but also to other people on the Air Force base including
superv	sors of his on the Air Force base?
A	Yes.
	MS. KRIEGER: Objection. Misstates prior testimony.
BY MR.	ALSAFFAR:
Q	Go ahead. I'm asking you what you believe



		)
1	A. Yes.	11:55
2	Q June 8th	11:55
3	Okay. So my statement was correct, right?	11:55
4	A. Yes.	11:55
5	Q. Okay. And for that reason, because Devin Kelley was	11:55
б	a specific threat to the public, you believed he and ordered	11:55
7	that he remain in confinement, right?	11:55
8	A. Yes.	11:55
9	Q. Okay. Let's go a little bit further down where you	11:55
10	start discussing those specific reasons, and I know we outlined	11:55
11	some of those just now and I want to go through them	11:55
12	specifically. Paragraph 4 continuing on to the next page. You	11:56
13	state that, "Specific reason for supporting my conclusion."	11:56
14	And then you list them. "In June 2011, the member'syou're	11:56
15	referring to Devin Kelley11 month-old stepchild was taken to	11:56
16	the ER because he had been vomiting and had previously had a	11:56
17	seizure. The child was observed with a bruise to the cheek and	11:56
18	ear. Further x-rays revealed a broken clavicle and subdural	11:56
19	hematoma. Medical professionals also later discovered an older	11:56
20	hematoma that had healed and medical professionals notified	11:56
21	authorities of suspected child abuse." Do you see that?	11:56
22	A. Yes.	11:56
23	Q. Okay. And you go on to describe the rest of the	11:56
24	paragraph as well. Some of the incidence that Tessa Kelley had	11:56
25	reported and some of these we went over in the prior statement	11:56



		1
1	from the 49th Security Forces. Do you remember that?	11:56
2	A. Yes.	11:56
3	Q. Okay. And I won't go through all of them, but I want	11:57
4	to highlight a couple because it's in your letter. You state	11:57
5	on April 23, 2012 you state that: "On April 23, 2012, while	11:57
б	driving to El Paso, Texas, to pick up a family member from the	11:57
7	airport, A1C Kelley took his gun out of his holster and held it	11:57
8	against her temple, stating, 'you want to die.' Tessa Kelley	11:57
9	pushed the gun away and then he placed it in his mouth." Do	11:58
10	you know see that?	11:58
11	A. Yes.	11:58
12	Q. Now, do you know where this information came from	11:58
13	that you put into this letter?	11:58
14	A. No.	11:58
15	Q. Okay. Would you have put this in this letter unless	11:58
16	unless you believed it to be correct and accurate?	11:58
17	A. I believe it wouldn't be in this letter if it wasn't	11:58
18	accurate.	11:58
19	Q. All right. So a better way of saying it is you're	11:58
20	only putting information in this memorandum that you believe	11:58
21	was true and accurate?	11:58
22	A. Again, I didn't draft the memo, but the information	11:58
23	would have been put in there only if it was accurate.	11:58
24	Q. All right. And you wouldn't have signed it unless it	11:58
25	was accurate in your view?	11:58



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A. Correct.
Q. Okay. A little further down you state then on April
27th. Do you see that line?
A. Yes.
Q. I'm highlighting it for you. "Then on April 27,
2012, A1C Kelley confessed in a self-made video to the assault
that occurred regarding his stepchild and gave away some of his
possessions." So by this time at least you're stating that you
are now aware of the confession video made on April 27, 2012,
that Devin Kelley made admitting that he abused his child,
correct?
A. Yes.
Q. And of course by this time you you definitely know
on July June 8, 2012, had probable cause to believe that he
committed all these offenses outlined in your letter?
A. Yes.
MS. KRIEGER: Objection. Calls for a legal opinion.
BY MR.ALSAFFAR:
Q. And then when you outlined all of these offenses that
you had probable cause to believe he committed including
those offense would include several types of felony assaults on
his wife and his child, right? Am I being fair when I say
that?
A. That he would do more or
Q. Let me let me that's a perfect example. Let me



		•
1	rephrase that.	11:59
2	That the you were outlining in this June 8, 2012,	12:00
3	acts that you reasonably believed Devin Kelley committed,	12:00
4	correct?	12:00
5	A. Correct.	12:00
б	Q. And those acts included felony assaults on his wife	12:00
7	and felony assaults on his child	12:00
8	MS. KRIEGER: Objection.	12:00
9	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	12:00
10	Q correct?	12:00
11	MS. KRIEGER: Calls for a legal conclusion.	12:00
12	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	12:00
13	Q. Is that right?	12:00
14	A. I don't know. I honestly don't know they were felony	12:00
15	assaults, but yes.	12:00
16	Q. Okay. The acts of assaulting his child and	12:00
17	assaulting his wife with both physical assault and a deadly	12:00
18	weapon, guns, you had reason to believe that he committed those	12:00
19	acts that's why you put them in this memorandum, true?	12:00
20	A. Yes.	12:00
21	Q. And that's why you recommended you had reasonable	12:00
22	belief that he committed those assaults because that's why you	12:00
23	recommended he be detained in his confinement facility, right?	12:00
24	MS. KRIEGER: Objection to form.	12:00
25	A. Just to clarify, I was not the one who drafted the	12:00



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1	letter, but, yes, signing it says yes.	12:01
2	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	12:01
3	Q. By signing this letter that you were you were	12:01
4	agreeing that you had a reasonable reason to believe that	12:01
5	these assaults as you as are described in the letter	12:01
б	happened and that supported the need for him to remain in a	12:01
7	confinement facility, correct?	12:01
8	A. Yes.	12:01
9	Q. Okay. Now, I know we talked about this earlier,	12:01
10	but since we're specifically on this, at this point in time	12:01
11	when you had a reason to believe these assaults had been	12:01
12	committed by Devin Kelley and you signed this letter on June 8,	12:01
13	2012, you didn't specifically check or make sure that Devin	12:01
14	Kelley's fingerprints were collected or submitted to the FBI,	12:01
15	fair?	12:01
16	A. I'm not involved in the process on that, but no.	12:01
17	Q. Okay. So I know that you you're saying I'm not	12:01
18	involved in that process and that's fine, but I want to get	12:01
19	clear that at this time, this specific day June 8, 2012, when	12:02
20	you as the commander for the 49th LRS had reason to believe	12:02
21	had a reasonable basis to determine that Devin Kelley committed	12:02
22	these acts that are described in this letter, you did not	12:02
23	either ensure, check, or confirm that Devin Kelley's	12:02
24	fingerprints were either collected or submitted to the FBI. Is	12:02
25	that fair to say?	12:02



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1	A. Yes.	12:02
2	Q. Okay. And you also did not ask anyone or order	12:02
3	anyone underneath your chain of command to ensure that Devin	12:02
4	Kelley's fingerprints were either collected or submitted to the	12:02
5	FBI at this point June 8, 2012; is that correct?	12:02
б	A. Correct.	12:02
7	Q. Okay. All right. Let's look at number scroll	12:02
8	down a little bit in your letter to Number 5. Five	12:03
9	Paragraph 5 you state or the letter states that you signed,	12:03
10	"Furthermore, investigation revealed that while receiving	12:03
11	inpatient mental health care, the member made several	12:03
12	threatening statements that if he were picked up by security	12:03
13	forces that he would go for their guns." Do you see that?	12:03
14	A. Yes.	12:03
15	Q. All right. So we saw the letter from June 7th from	12:03
16	the facility, specifically commenting that he was looking for	12:03
17	weapons and body armor that Sergeant Wolfe was aware of. We	12:03
18	see this memorandum that you signed this next day stating that	12:03
19	you also learned that Devin Kelley made several threatening	12:03
20	statements about what about going for security forces if	12:03
21	they came to get him, correct?	12:03
22	A. Correct.	12:03
23	Q. It was another instance in which Devin Kelley is	12:03
24	making threats, dangerous threats about guns, correct?	12:03
25	A. Correct.	12:03



		1
1	Q. All right. Now, going a little bit further down. On	12:04
2	June 7th so that's the same day he escaped the mental	12:04
3	facility "Kelley contacted the Holloman Air Force Base	12:04
4	Exchange and entered into an agreement to purchase a 9mm	12:04
5	handgun." Do you see that?	12:04
6	A. Yes.	12:04
7	Q. So what we know what you knew in June 8, 2012,	12:04
8	what the LRS knew as well and soon after the 49th Wing Command	12:04
9	as well and the 49th Judge Advocate knew at this time soon	12:04
10	after was that Devin Kelley had escaped the mental institution,	12:04
11	is looking for guns at the mental institution, was looking for	12:04
12	body armor at the mental institution, had made specific threats	12:04
13	to security forces that he would go for their guns and was also	12:04
14	specifically trying to purchase not only trying to purchase	12:04
15	a gun but had made an agreement to purchase a 9mm handgun on	12:04
16	June 7, 2012, right?	12:04
17	MS. KRIEGER: Objection to form.	12:04
18	A. Yes.	12:04
19	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	12:04
20	Q. Everything I just said was accurate; wasn't it?	12:05
21	A. Yes.	12:05
22	Q. Okay. That is in June 8, 2012, not only did you know	12:05
23	that you had in Devin Kelley a very dangerous person to the	12:05
24	public, but somebody who was planning, threatening, and looking	12:05
25	to accomplish some kind of violent event. Is that fair to say?	12:05



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1	MS. KRIEGER: Objection to form.	12:05
2	A. Yes.	12:05
3	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	12:05
4	Q. Okay. Now that's the kind of person would you	12:05
5	agree with this, I don't want to put words in your mouth, but	12:05
б	that's the kind of person that poses a threat to the public at	12:05
7	large; isn't it?	12:05
8	A. Yes.	12:05
9	Q. And we knew that about Devin Kelley certainly by June	12:05
10	8, 2012, when you signed this letter, true?	12:05
11	A. Yes.	12:05
12	Q. And that's why you wanted him in a facility confined	12:05
13	so he couldn't hurt anybody because he was a reasonable threat	12:05
14	to hurt people; wasn't he?	12:05
15	A. Yes.	12:05
16	Q. Okay. And so in addition to knowing that he was in a	12:05
17	mental facility, so we're talking June 8, 2012, 49th Air Force	12:05
18	Wing, 49th Security Forces Wing and 49th LRS, as well as the	12:06
19	49th JAG knew that he was in a mental health facility, he was	12:06
20	searching for guns while in the facility, he tried to he did	12:06
21	escape the mental health facility. He had threatened to use	12:06
22	guns again security forces, he had searched for guns, and	12:06
23	actually gotten an agreement to purchase a gun while in the	12:06
24	mental health facility and also was looking for body armor.	12:06
25	And had also they knew by now that his, according to	12:06



		,
1	his wife he'd also threatened to kill people under at his	12:06
2	workplace, blowing everyone's head off. We know all that now	12:06
3	by June 8, 2012, about Devin Kelley, correct?	12:06
4	MS. KRIEGER: Objection.	12:06
5	A. Yes.	12:06
6	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	12:06
7	Q. That is a person we don't want to have guns; fair to	12:06
8	say?	12:06
9	MS. KRIEGER: Objection.	12:06
10	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	12:06
11	Q. Is that a person you would be worried about having	12:06
12	guns?	12:06
13	A. Yes.	12:06
14	Q. In fact, that's a person that shouldn't have guns,	12:07
15	right? Would you agree with that?	12:07
16	A. Yes.	12:07
17	Q. Okay. Anything that your outfit did at that point	12:07
18	and when I say "your outfit" I mean the LRS. June 8th June	12:07
19	8, 2012, when you signed this memorandum to keep him confined	12:07
20	was there anything your outfit did to either determine whether	12:07
21	Devin Kelley had weapons and if he did what should be done to	12:07
22	get those weapons out of his hands?	12:07
23	A. I am not aware.	12:07
24	Q. Okay. So you personally didn't do anything as	12:07
25	commander to ensure that, right?	12:07



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1	A. No.	12:07
2	Q. And you didn't personally ask anybody to do that	12:07
3	either?	12:07
4	A. No.	12:07
5	Q. Okay. Now, do you agree that when government	12:07
6	agencies fail to share information on dangerous felons they	12:07
7	unnecessarily expose the public to an increased risk of gun	12:08
8	violence?	12:08
9	MS. KRIEGER: Objection. Relevance.	12:08
10	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	12:08
11	Q. You can answer.	12:08
12	A. I can yes.	12:08
13	Q. And we would you agree that we do also decrease	12:08
14	the risk of harm to the public by making it harder for	12:08
15	criminals to get guns?	12:08
16	MS. KRIEGER: Objection. Relevance.	12:08
17	A. Yes.	12:08
18	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	12:08
19	Q. Do you agree also by that logic, do you agree that	12:08
20	when dangerous criminals, criminals who have been convicted of	12:08
21	felonies do get access to weapons that they're not supposed to	12:08
22	get access to that increases the risk of harm to the general	12:09
23	public?	12:09
24	MS. KRIEGER: Objection to the form and relevance.	12:09
25	A. Yes.	12:09



		•
1	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	12:09
2	Q. Now, you know eventually Devin Kelley was convicted	12:09
3	of felonies, correct?	12:09
4	A. No. Not for sure.	12:09
5	Q. Okay. You don't know that he pled guilty to	12:09
6	A. Other than I mean, I read it in the documents	12:09
7	provided	12:09
8	Q. Okay.	12:09
9	A but I wasn't	12:09
10	Q. We'll we'll	12:09
11	A involved in the case.	12:09
12	Q talk about that specifically, but let's can	12:09
13	just assume for me that Devin Kelley, and I'll show you the	12:09
14	documentation of it. In fact, let's just go let's just	12:09
15	before I ask you the next question I'm going to show you that	12:09
16	document and then we can move on.	12:09
17	Let's talk about the letter a little bit more. Now,	12:09
18	in Paragraph 5, the middle of the paragraph it states, "Later	12:09
19	that same night, June 7, 2012, Kelley climbed a fence and left	12:09
20	the mental health facility without authorization." Say that	12:09
21	see that?	12:09
22	A. Yes, I do.	12:09
23	Q. All right. So he was not allowed to leave the mental	12:09
24	health facility. He did that without authorization, correct?	12:10
25	A. Correct.	12:10
		]



		1
1	Q. All right. And let's go down to Number 6, and I'll	12:10
2	move that up for you. You state the Paragraph 6 you state	12:10
3	this letter states that you signed and authorized, states,	12:10
4	"The course of conduct by A1C Kelley leads me to conclude that	12:10
5	he will continue to engage in serous criminal conduct if not	12:10
б	confined." Do you see that?	12:10
7	A. Yes.	12:10
8	Q. So what you're is it fair to say that what you're	12:10
9	stating here is that if we let this guy loose, we let this guy	12:10
10	out, Devin Kelley out he will engage in serious criminal	12:10
11	misconduct?	12:11
12	MS. KRIEGER: Objection. The document speaks for	12:11
13	itself.	12:11
14	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	12:11
15	Q. Is that what you're saying telling us in this	12:11
16	document?	12:11
17	A. Yes.	12:11
18	Q. And is one of those things include that at this	12:11
19	time you knew as the commander of 49 LRS that Devin Kelley was	12:11
20	a dangerous person who could possibly engage in criminal	12:11
21	conduct that could hurt or kill people? That was a concern of	12:11
22	yours?	12:11
23	A. Yes.	12:11
24	Q. Okay. And it wasn't just serious criminal conduct	12:11
25	like stealing a car, you were talking about criminal conduct	12:11

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1	about violence against other people in the public? That's what	12:11
2	you were concerned about in Paragraph 6 with Devin Kelley?	12:11
3	A. Yes.	12:11
4	Q. All right. And you go on to explain why you believe	12:11
5	that. You state: Devin Kelley when you say "he" that means	12:11
б	Devin Kelly, correct?	12:11
7	A. Correct.	12:11
8	Q. You say, "He pointed a gun at his wife and then	12:11
9	himself; carried a weapon openly on his person; confessed to	12:11
10	injuring his stepchild, and then fled the area by driving to	12:11
11	San Antonio, Texas. But for the intervention by his father,	12:11
12	I'm convinced that he would have been AWOL and would not have	12:11
13	returned on his own accord to Holloman Air Force Base. After	12:11
14	learning that he might be released from the mental health	12:11
15	facility, he deliberately planned to obtain another gun (the	12:11
16	other gun having been taken away from him) and body armor after	12:11
17	making threats to kill his wife and threats to try to take away	12:11
18	the guns from any security forces members."	12:11
19	All of that I just read, all those statements you	12:11
20	made about Devin Kelley you believed to be true and accurate at	12:12
21	the time you signed this letter, correct?	12:12
22	A. Correct.	12:12
23	Q. You would not have signed this letter unless you	12:12
24	thought it was true and accurate about him, correct?	12:12
25	A. Correct.	12:12



		, 1
1	Q. All right. Next you state on the next page, "I am	12:12
2	convinced that he is dangerous and likely to harm someone if	12:12
3	released." So at this point June 8, 2012, not only were you	12:12
4	concerned, but you were actually convinced that Devin Kelley	12:13
5	was both dangerous and likely, is the term you used, not	12:13
б	possibly, but likely to harm someone if he was let loose in the	12:13
7	general public." Is that fair to say?	12:13
8	A. Yes.	12:13
9	Q. Okay. And you believe that was true to this day,	12:13
10	right?	12:13
11	A. Yes.	12:13
12	Q. Okay. And let's look down a little further. You	12:13
13	state, "Furthermore, when he was informed that he might be	12:13
14	released from the mental health facility and placed into	12:13
15	pretrial confinement or other restrictions, he escaped from the	12:13
16	mental health facility by jumping a fence late at night after	12:13
17	making arrangements to purchase a handgun." You agree with	12:13
18	that statement, correct?	12:13
19	A. Correct.	12:13
20	Q. So Devin Kelley at this point in timeso this would	12:13
21	have been June 7, 2012tried to escape the mental health	12:14
22	facility, right?	12:14
23	A. Correct.	12:14
24	Q. That's not you're not describing a voluntary	12:14
25	walkout because I'm free of my own will to leave this place.	12:14
		]



	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 129	
1	He escaped by trying to jump by actually jumping a fence at	12:14
2	the mental health facility against orders, correct?	12:14
3	A. Correct.	12:14
4	Q. Okay. All right. And you attached to this document,	12:14
5	this June 8, 2012, a confinement order, right? And that's the	12:14
б	confinement order we've been talking about earlier and that's	12:14
7	your signature in the middle there; is that right?	12:14
8	A. Yes, I believe that's my signature.	12:14
9	Q. And that's dated June 8, 2012?	12:14
10	A. Correct.	12:14
11	Q. Al right. Now, when you signed this confinement	12:14
12	order where and this letter where would that have gone?	12:14
13	Where would you have sent that to ensure that it was followed?	12:15
14	A. The first sergeant would have brought it in, I would	12:15
15	have signed it, and then it handed back to him or her.	12:15
16	Q. Okay. And if that first sergeant, let's assume that	12:15
17	was Tracy Wolfe or somebody in that first sergeant position,	12:15
18	that's what we're talking about when we say first sergeant,	12:15
19	correct?	12:15
20	A. Correct.	12:15
21	Q. Okay. So you would have provided both this letter	12:15
22	and the confinement order along with the attachments you	12:15
23	reference in the letter to the first sergeant in your detail,	12:15
24	correct?	12:15
25	A. Correct.	12:15



	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHESJanuary 09, 2020HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA130	
1	Q. And then that person would have done what with this?	12:15
2	A. I'm not entirely sure.	12:15
3	Q. I mean, like would I mean, this is a serious	12:15
4	document. Fair to say serious document?	12:15
5	A. Yes.	12:15
6	Q. I mean, you are telling you are putting a detailed	12:15
7	memorandum together and sending it to three different command	12:15
8	levels and telling them that we have a very dangerous person	12:15
9	that if is let out of confinement facility will likely comment	12:15
10	serious violence on the public. That's about as serious a	12:16
11	document as you can get, correct?	12:16
12	A. Speculation, but yes.	12:16
13	Q. I mean, do you think it's a serious document?	12:16
14	A. Yes, I think it's a serious document.	12:16
15	Q. I'm not asking you to speculate. I'm asking what you	12:16
16	think. Very serious document; isn't it?	12:16
17	A. Yes.	12:16
18	Q. You are you are documenting in a in a file	12:16
19	about an airman under your command that I I have facts that	12:16
20	lead me to believe, certainly reasonable grounds to believe	12:16
21	that we have a person who is capable and likely to commit	12:16
22	serious, violent felonies if we don't put him in a prison cell,	12:16
23	right? That's what you're saying about Devin Kelley on June 8,	12:16
24	2012, right?	12:16
25	A. Yes.	12:16



	HOLCOMBE VS UNITED STATES OF AMERICA 131	7
1	Q. And you attach a confinement order ensuring that that	12:16
2	happens, right?	12:16
3	A. Yes.	12:16
4	Q. And so what did you do to ensure that that that	12:16
5	order was put somewhere where it would be it would	12:16
6	definitely be followed and that what did you do to follow up to	12:16
7	make sure that was done?	12:16
8	A. I did not do any follow up.	12:16
9	Q. Okay. Why is that?	12:17
10	A. I don't know.	12:17
11	Q. I mean, you were I can tell from I mean, is it	12:17
12	fair for me to say that from reading this document that we can	12:17
13	tell you were very, very concerned about this very dangerous	12:17
14	person?	12:17
15	A. Correct.	12:17
16	Q. All right. Can you so why do you think I mean,	12:17
17	you're the only one that can tell us this, why do you think	12:17
18	that you did nothing to follow up to ensure that Mr. Kelley was	12:17
19	in fact confined and kept out to of the kept away from the	12:17
20	public?	12:17
21	A. I don't have an answer for you.	12:17
22	Q. Have you thought about that in the years since to	12:17
23	A. No.	12:17
24	Q. Okay. Haven't thought about it. Has anybody asked	12:17
25	you within your command or supervisory above investigating this	12:17



	TIOLOONIDE VS UNITED STATES OF AMERICA 152	1	
1	event or anything like that, hey, you know, tell me what you	12:17	
2	did to ensure that Devin Kelley was being monitored, was	12:17	
3	fingerprints were being submitted, was being put into		
4	confinement, make sure this dangerous person was not let loose?	12:17	
5	Did no one ask you about that?	12:17	
б	A. No.	12:17	
7	Q. Am I the first person other than the U.S. Attorneys	12:18	
8	ask you about this?	12:18	
9	A. Yes.	12:18	
10	Q. Okay. As we sit here today, Mr. Alsaffar is the	12:18	
11	first person who has actually inquired what you did to follow	12:18	
12	up that this dangerous person was actually being kept away from	12:18	
13	the public?	12:18	
14	A. Yes.	12:18	
15	Q. Okay. All right. Let's look at	12:18	
16	MS. KRIEGER: We've been going for like an hour and a	12:18	
17	half I think.	12:18	
18	MR. ALSAFFAR: Oh. Have we?	12:18	
19	MS. KRIEGER: Do you want to	12:18	
20	MR. ALSAFFAR: I am fine. But	12:18	
21	MS. KRIEGER: I don't know how close you are.	12:18	
22	MR. ALSAFFAR: I am fine I am not I don't think	12:18	
23	I'm terribly far away because I think we're getting towards the	12:18	
24	end of what Major Hughes was involved, but I also don't want to	12:18	
25	put any kind of unreasonable strain on anybody. So it's up to	12:18	



		•
1	you all. I'm like I always joke that in your and you're	12:18
2	probably like this because you're in the military you know this	12:18
3	more than I do, I am not at your level. But we're like kind of	12:18
4	surgeons we can go for 12 hours talking, which is not a skill	12:18
5	most people appreciate or like. But we understand that not	12:18
6	everyone is like that. You all may need a break.	12:18
7	So if you all want to take a little break that's	12:18
8	fine. If you want to take a lunch break that's fine.	12:19
9	MS. KRIEGER: Well, I	12:19
10	MR. ALSAFFAR: It's your choices.	12:19
11	MS. KRIEGER: Do you need a break?	12:19
12	THE WITNESS: I'm getting to the point that I'd like	12:19
13	lunch.	12:19
14	MR. ALSAFFAR: Okay.	12:19
15	MS. KRIEGER: Well, this is before we do a lunch	12:19
16	break	12:19
17	MR. ALSAFFAR: Yeah.	12:19
18	MS. KRIEGER: how much longer do you think you	12:19
19	will need? We can go off the record.	12:19
20	(Brief break taken at 12:19 p.m.)	12:19
21	(Back on the record at 12:34 p.m.)	12:34
22	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	12:35
23	Q. Okay. Are you ready?	12:35
24	A. Yes, sir.	12:35
25	Q. All right. Okay. We were talking about the	12:35



	HOLGOWIDE VS UNITED STATES OF AWERICA 134	1	
1	confinement issue and then what was done after you issued and	12:35	
2	signed this confinement order. I believe you said this would	12:35	
3	have been provided to your first sergeant whoever that was at	12:35	
4	the time, right?	12:35	
5	A. Correct.	12:35	
б	Q. And then you would have tasked that first sergeant to	12:35	
7	follow up to follow up and make sure that this was followed	12:35	
8	through on, correct?	12:35	
9	A. Yes.	12:35	
10	Q. Okay. I also noticed that we have the staff judge	12:35	
11	advocate as well listed Dawn Hankins on the confinement order.	12:35	
12	Do you see that?		
13	A. Yes.	12:36	
14	Q. Would you have I noticed I know on your letter	12:36	
15	and to which this order was attached you had the staff judge	12:36	
16	advocate 49th Wing as the first person of first office of	12:36	
17	contact on this, correct?	12:36	
18	A. Correct.	12:36	
19	Q. So that means you would have also sent this to the	12:36	
20	judge advocate too also know about. That what that means?	12:36	
21	A. I believe it would have gone to them first, yes.	12:36	
22	Q. Okay. And what follow up or coordination would you	12:36	
23	have done with the judge advocate's office after informing them	12:36	
24	of all these informing them of the need to keep him in	12:36	
25	confinement and the specific dangerous facts about Devin Kelley	12:36	



	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 135		
1	that are outlined in this letter? What would have done to	12:36	
2	follow up with with the judge advocate?	12:36	
3	A. I probably would have contacted the first sergeant to	12:36	
4	make sure that it actually had gone to the judge advocate's	12:36	
5	office.	12:36	
6	Q. Okay. And did you do that in this case?	12:36	
7	A. I don't recall.	12:36	
8	Q. Okay. Did you is there any documentation anywhere	12:36	
9	that shows that you followed up to with your first sergeant	12:37	
10	to ensure that all these orders and all these threats by Devin	12:37	
11	Kelley were reported to these various offices?	12:37	
12	A. No.	12:37	
13	Q. Okay. And was there any system that the Air Force	12:37	
14	had in place at Holloman Air Force Base that would have allowed	12:37	
15	to you document that for others to see and confirm at Holloman		
16	Air Force Base?	12:37	
17	A. Not that I'm aware of.	12:37	
18	Q. Okay. Electronic or otherwise?	12:37	
19	A. Either/or.	12:37	
20	Q. Okay. So based on what we talked about I think it's	12:37	
21	my understanding is that neither you or anyone that you	12:37	
22	supervised at Holloman Air Force Base were individuals who	12:37	
23	would have been responsible, employees responsible for	12:37	
24	reporting to the NICS FBI system; is that correct?	12:38	
25	A. Correct.	12:38	



		1
1	MR. ALSAFFAR: Okay. Is there a camera running? No	12:38
2	this one. But is that a camera that seems to keep is that a	12:38
3	security camera?	12:38
4	MS. KRIEGER: I don't think it's a security camera.	12:38
5	I don't know what that is.	12:38
б	MR. ALSAFFAR: Strictly out of curiosity because that	12:38
7	thing is following me.	12:38
8	MS. KRIEGER: Is it moving?	12:38
9	MR. ALSAFFAR: Yeah. It's been moving around	12:38
10	throughout the deposition.	12:38
11	MS. KRIEGER: Oh. I had	12:38
12	MR. ALSAFFAR: So I just thought is that a security	12:38
13	camera or a motion camera. I'm fine with it. I was just	12:38
14	curious.	12:38
15	MS. KRIEGER: I have no idea. I assume it's part of	12:38
16	the courtroom technology.	12:38
17	THE WITNESS: We typically do teleconferences by	12:38
18	video.	12:38
19	MR. ALSAFFAR: Yeah.	12:38
20	THE WITNESS: And that would usually be a camera that	12:38
21	would be used, but as far as that I don't know.	12:38
22	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	12:38
23	Q. No. I was just curious because I've seen it move a	12:38
24	few times while we've been doing this.	12:38
25	Okay. Did you did your when you were acting	12:38
		]



		г		
1	commander or second in command at Holloman Air Force Base did	12:38		
2	you ever had any kind of monthly or weekly or intermittent	12:38		
3	meetings where you sat down and reviewed any investigated case 1			
4	files that were being done on people like Devin Kelley who were	12:39		
5	in your command?	12:39		
б	A. No.	12:39		
7	Q. All right. So that would then just to close that	12:39		
8	out, you never had any oversight review meetings with the 49th	12:39		
9	Security Forces regarding Devin Kelley's case	12:39		
10	A. No.	12:39		
11	Q correct?	12:39		
12	Never had any oversight or joint meetings with the	12:39		
13	staff judge advocate's office regarding Devin Kelley's case,	12:39		
14	right?	12:39		
15	A. Right.	12:39		
16	Q. And you never had any kind of joint meetings to	12:39		
17	review Devin Kelley's case periodically with the AFOSI	12:39		
18	Detachment 225; is that right?	12:39		
19	A. That's right.	12:39		
20	Q. Okay. Let's go to Page 13358 which is in Exhibit 6	12:40		
21	and I've also have you gotten there?	12:40		
22	A. Yes.	12:40		
23	Q. Okay. This is an E-mail, you see Tracy Wolfe is on	12:40		
24	the top of it. Do you see that?	12:40		
25	A. Yes, I do.	12:40		
		1		



			,
1	Q.	And what is the date of this E-mail? The actual	12:40
2	E-mail.		12:40
3	Α.	7 November 2012.	12:40
4	Q.	And who is this E-mail to?	12:40
5	Α.	It is to Lieutenant Colonel Bearden.	12:40
6	Q.	And again, remind us who that is?	12:40
7	Α.	He is the squadron commander at that time.	12:40
8	Q.	All right. And when you say "squadron commander" he	12:40
9	was the 4	9th LRS commander, correct?	12:40
10	Α.	Correct.	12:40
11	Q.	Where you were at times acting commander?	12:40
12	Α.	Correct.	12:40
13	Q.	All right. So do you know who Brett Johnson is?	12:41
14	Α.	No.	12:41
15	Q.	Okay. So you only know him by what's described here	12:41
16	as Captain, U.S. Air Force, ACC 49 WG/JA?		
17	Α.	Correct.	12:41
18	Q.	So Captain Johnson is with can you tell us what	12:41
19	ACC 49 WG	/JA is?	12:41
20	Α.	ACC would be Air Combat Command is usually just a	12:41
21	designato	r that okay. ACC is Air Combat Command usually	12:41
22	just some	thing that gets put on E-mail addresses. It does vary	12:41
23	depending	on address. 49 Wing JA is a 49th Wing Judge Advocate	12:41
24	General's	office.	12:41
25	Q.	Okay. And so he's a judge advocate?	12:41



	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 139	
1	A. Yes, sir.	12
2	Q. So in this E-mail to Lieutenant Colonel Bearden he	12
3	was the commander of 49 LRS at the time, correct, November 7,	12
4	2012, correct?	12
5	A. Correct.	12
б	Q. It states, "Lieutenant Colonel Bearden, I wanted to	12
7	let you know that A1C Devin Kelley was sentenced today. A	12
8	panel of officers and enlisted members sentenced him to the	12
9	following." And then it lists his sentence reduction to E-1;	12
0	12 months confinement; and a bad conduct discharge. And then	12
1	he entered pleas of guilty to the following charges and	12
2	specifications and it lists assault. Article 128 assault	12
3	charges he pled guilty to, correct?	12
4	A. Correct.	12
5	Q. And it's got both both charges, the assault	12
6	charges under Article 121 I'm sorry under Article 128	12
7	that he pled guilty to, correct?	12
8	A. I believe that's what that means, yes.	12
9	Q. Okay. And so at this point in time this is just	12
0	what I'm trying to go through is the notification of	12
1	conviction. So at this point your outfit, the 49th LRS	12
2	Squadron, has been and the 49th Wing Judge Advocate's Office	12
3	is confirming and notifying you that Devin Kelley has now been	12
4	convicted of these two assault crimes, correct?	12
5	A. The notification is going to Colonel Bearden, yes.	12



	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 140	
1	Q. Okay. Colonel Bearden is the head commander of the	12:4
2	49th LRS at the time, November 7, 2012, correct?	12:4
3	A. Correct.	12:4
4	Q. All right. And so in addition to that well, let's	12:4
5	just put this so this E-mail, and this includes Tracy Wolfe	12:4
6	is actually on this E-mail as well, is that correct?	12:4
7	A. Correct.	12:4
8	Q. And so your first sergeant, the person you rely on to	12:4
9	manage these types of folks in your command, you know, like	12:4
10	Devin Kelley have these issues, your first sergeant is also	12:4
11	being made aware that Devin Kelley's been convicted of these	12:4
12	assaults, correct?	12:4
13	A. Correct.	12:4
14	Q. All right. So at this time your your commander	12:4
15	and the person who works under you that you rely on for these	12:4
16	kinds of things has been informed that Devin Kelley's been	12:4
17	convicted of these two assaults, right?	12:4
18	A. Correct.	12:4
19	Q. Okay. And let's go to the next page. Actually let	12:4
20	me give you the page number. It's the page before. Sorry.	12:4
21	13357. Have you seen this document before?	12:4
22	A. No.	12:4
23	Q. Okay. This is called what is the title at the	12:4
24	top?	12:4
25	A. It is titled "Report of Result of Trial	12:4



MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHESJanuary 09, 202HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA14	
Continuation."	
Q. Okay. And what's the date on it?	
A. November 7, 2012.	
Q. I'm going to show you a better copy. Let's go ahead	
and mark it.	
(Document marked Exhibit No. 9.)	
Q. Okay. I'm handing you ready? Sorry.	
I'm handing you Exhibit No. 9, Bates Stamped	
USA12947. That's a copy. It's the same thing you're looking	
in the just just before and it's on the screen. It's	
just a more fulsome document and the bottom's not cut off, so	
12947. This is also the report of result trial for November 12	
I'm sorry November 7, 2012, correct?	
A. Correct.	
Q. Okay. So you see that it states that under	
Specification 1 charges: Violation of USM UCMJ, 128 pleads	
guilty. Do you see that?	
A. Yes.	
Q. And then second specification under Charge of 128 it	
is also plea of guilty related to a child, right?	
A. Correct.	
Q. Okay. And then if you look at the bottom left that's	
what I wanted to draw your attention to. Do you see the	
distribution list?	
A. Yes.	



	HOLGOWIDE VS UNITED STATES OF AWERICA 142	
1	Q. Okay. And it includes quite quite a few command	12:46
2	levels; is that right?	12:46
3	A. Correct.	12:46
4	Q. All right. Let's go through those. This is stating	12:46
5	that this report is the result of a trial is being sent to all	12:47
6	these various command levels, correct?	12:47
7	A. Correct.	12:47
8	Q. Okay. Let's look at the first one. What is	12:47
9	ACC/CC/JA?	12:47
10	A. That would be Air Combat Command, Commander, Judge	12:47
11	Advocate.	12:47
12	Q. Okay. So that would be the judge advocate. One of	12:47
13	the highest levels of command just below the secretary of the	12:47
14	Air Force, correct?	12:47
15	A. Correct.	12:47
16	Q. All right. And then what's the next one, AF	12:47
17	A. Twelfth Air Force Commander, Judge Advocate.	12:47
18	Q. And that would be above your command but below the	12:47
19	ACC command, correct?	12:47
20	A. Correct.	12:47
21	Q. Remember how we were talking about numbered command	12:47
22	and you just weren't sure which one it was and I said I've seen	12:47
23	12 a lot, that's what this is referring to; 12 Air Force	12:47
24	Command, Judge Advocate, correct?	12:47
25	A. Okay.	12:47



		HAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 143		
1	Q.	So you have well, that's your understanding what	12:47	
2	12 Air Fo	rce CC/JA stands for, correct?	12:47	
3	Α.	Correct.	12:47	
4	Q.	And so we have the two highest levels of judge	12:47	
5	advocate	commander receiving notice of this conviction,	12:47	
б	correct?		12:47	
7	Α.	Correct.	12:47	
8	Q.	And then what's the next one?	12:47	
9	Α.	49th Wing, Commander, Judge Advocate.	12:47	
10	Q.	All right. So that's the next level. Now we have	12:48	
11	all three	levels of the judge advocate command being notified	12:48	
12	of this conviction, right?			
13	Α.	Yes.	12:48	
14	Q.	The next level, what's MDG?	12:48	
15	Α.	MDG is Medical Group Commander.	12:48	
16	Q.	Okay. And then the next one?	12:48	
17	Α.	Force Support Squadron. I don't know what DPM stands	12:48	
18	for.		12:48	
19	Q.	Okay. Do you know what 49 FSS is?	12:48	
20	Α.	Force Support Squadron.	12:48	
21	Q.	Force Support Squadron?	12:48	
22	Α.	Yes.	12:48	
23	Q.	Okay. And what is that?	12:48	
24	Α.	That is the services organization that provides	12:48	
25	common se	rvices to base personnel.	12:48	



	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 144	
1	Q. Okay. And what's the next one?	12
2	A. Next one is Comptroller Squadron. That's the finance	12
3	personnel.	12
ł	Q. Okay. And that's the 49th Comptroller?	12
5	A. Correct. I don't know what FMFP means.	12
5	Q. Okay. And what's the next one?	12
7	A. The next one is 49 Security Forces Commander, SFOI.	12
3	I don't what SFOI stands for.	12
9	Q. My understanding it's the Security Forces Office of	12
0	Investigations. Have you heard that phrase before?	12
1	A. I know they have investigators.	12
2	Q. Okay. So this is the 49th Security Forces Squadron	12
3	which is the squadron that was investigating Devin Kelley at	12
4	the Holloman Air Force Base, 49th, correct?	12
5	A. I don't know if they were the ones investigating, but	12
б		12
7	Q. Okay. Well, remember I showed you the record	12
8	A. Right.	12
9	Q with it. It was the 49th Security Forces Squadron	12
0	that	12
1	A. I don't know, but the document does support that.	12
2	Q. Okay. All right. So the 49th Security Forces	12
3	Squadron is listed as as receiving this conviction as well,	12
1	correct?	1
5	A. Correct.	1



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1	Q. And then what's the next one if you know?	12:49
2	A. I think I don't know what AFLOA stands for, but I	12:49
3	think that's the Area of Defense Counsel.	12:49
4	Q. Okay. And then the AFOSI one, the next one?	12:49
5	A. And that would just be Air Force Office of Special	12:49
6	Investigations Detachment 225.	12:49
7	Q. And that's the that's the specific special	12:49
8	investigation's office that's located on Holloman Air Force	12:49
9	Base that investigated Devin Kelley, right?	12:49
10	A. I believe so, yes.	12:49
11	Q. And then CDO, do you know what that is?	12:49
12	A. I don't know what CDO is.	12:49
13	Q. Okay. So this report of conviction sent to three	12:49
14	different levels of JAG command was sent to the 49th Security	12:50
15	Forces on Holloman, as well as to the AFOSI Detachment on	12:50
16	Holloman Air Force Base on November 7, 2012, correct?	12:50
17	A. It looks like it, yes.	12:50
18	Q. All right. So at this point and and in	12:50
19	addition to that we've already established that you also	12:50
20	you, your outfit 49th LRS received notification of the report	12:50
21	of result of trial as well?	12:50
22	A. Correct.	12:50
23	Q. Correct. So at that point everybody on Holloman Air	12:50
24	Force Base that needed to know that JAG, AFOSI, the 49th	12:50
25	Security Forces, 49th Logistics Readiness Division where Devin	12:50

	MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 146	
1	Kelley worked, all were made aware of the fact that he was	12:50
2	officially convicted of these felonies, correct?	12:50
3	A. I don't know if they were all notified, but all	12:50
4	pertinent people on the base were notified. But, yes, all	12:50
5	these people were appeared to be.	12:50
6	Q. Okay. And so all those sections I named were	12:51
7	notified?	12:51
8	A. Yes.	12:51
9	Q. Okay. And when when this hit the 49th LRS do you	12:51
10	remember when you found out that he was convicted if you were	12:51
11	if you found out at all?	12:51
12	A. I don't know if I was notified. I don't remember	12:51
13	anything.	12:51
14	Q. Okay. Would that be something you would have	12:51
15	remembered? Somebody under your command that you had issued a	12:51
16	very detailed confinement letter detailing shooting threats and	12:51
17	mass violence threats that you would soon after that find out	12:51
18	that he was convicted. Would that be something you would	12:51
19	usually remember?	12:51
20	A. Yes.	12:51
21	Q. Okay. And you're saying that you don't remember	12:51
22	being notified that Devin Kelley was convicted of these crimes?	12:51
23	A. Correct.	12:51
24	Q. Okay. And I take it by that, that there was nothing	12:51
25	your command did that you're aware of, including Tracy Wolfe,	12:51



	HOLGOIVIDE VS UIVITED STATES OF AIVIERICA 147	1
1	including yourself, to ensure that at that point when after you	12:52
2	were notified he was convicted that his fingerprints were	12:52
3	submitted to the FBI?	12:52
4	A. Correct.	12:52
5	Q. All right. Now, at this point that he's been	12:52
6	convicted would you agree that if a dangerous at this point	12:52
7	he's a dangerous criminal, correct? He's been convicted of two	12:52
8	dangerous crimes, true?	12:52
9	A. True.	12:52
10	Q. Okay. And if a dangerous criminal like Devin Kelley	12:52
11	who has been convicted of 128 Assault, an offense that would	12:52
12	deny him access to weapons and firearms, and if those	12:52
13	convictions are not reported to the FBI and people like Devin	12:52
14	Kelley get access to firearms that increases the risk of harm	12:52
15	to the general public, doesn't it?	12:52
16	MS. KRIEGER: Objection to form. Relevance. Calls	12:52
17	for speculation.	12:52
18	A. I don't know specifically what UCMJ 128 Article	12:52
19	means, but it seems if someone was convicted it would make	12:52
20	sense.	12:52
21	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	12:52
22	Q. Well, it's described in that report of result of	12:53
23	trial very basically and simply isn't it what exactly he was	12:53
24	convicted of?	12:53
25	A. The charges, yes. I don't know what the full article	12:53
		]

ESQUIRE DEPOSITION SOLUTIONS

	HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 148
	means.
	Q. That's fine. That's fine. And it states in that
	report that it's Article 128, correct?
	A. It states that those specifications are under 128. I
	just don't know what
	Q. That is totally okay. Well, what I'm saying is, then
	it tells you very in very layman's language what those
	those charges and specifications are that he specifically pled
	guilty to, correct?
)	A. Correct.
-	Q. And that would Specification 1 was his assault on
1	Tessa Kelley and Specification 2 is his assault on his child,
3	right?
	A. Correct.
	Q. Okay. And so
<u>,</u>	MS. KRIEGER: I'm sorry. Someone was just asking at
7	the opening the door and gesturing to me. I just want to
}	see what that is.
)	MR. ALSAFFER: Okay. We'll just stay on the record.
)	MS. KRIEGER: You can stay on for 30 seconds.
-	MR. ALSAFFAR: Okay.
	MS. KRIEGER: Okay.
	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:
	Q. Okay. So let me re-ask my question now that we've
	kind of gone through the conviction document. So if a



		1
1	dangerous criminal like Devin Kelley who's been convicted of	12:54
2	the crimes that are outlined in this report of result of trial,	12:54
3	and assume with me that those convictions would disqualify him	12:54
4	from purchasing firearms and also that those convictions were	12:54
5	not reported to the FBI and that would allow him to get access	12:55
б	for firearms, that would increase the risk of harm to the	12:55
7	general public; wouldn't it?	12:55
8	MS. KRIEGER: Objection. Calls for speculation.	12:55
9	A. That was can you rephrase that?	12:55
10	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	12:55
11	Q. Yeah, yeah. No. It's a very it was a very	12:55
12	confusing question. So if a dangerous criminal who's been	12:55
13	convicted of crimes like Devin Kelley was, is allowed access to	12:55
14	firearms that he shouldn't be allowed access to, that increases	12:55
15	the risk of harm to the general public; doesn't it?	12:55
16	MS. KRIEGER: Same objection.	12:55
17	A. Yes.	12:55
18	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	12:55
19	Q. And the more information that the FBI has on	12:55
20	dangerous felons the better decisions they can make in	12:55
21	preventing individuals who shouldn't have firearms from getting	12:55
22	those firearms. Would you agree with that?	12:55
23	A. Yes.	12:55
24	Q. Okay. Do you agree that when Air Force agents and	12:56
25	Air Force employees are not properly trained on how to collect	12:56

#### MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 150 1 or submit fire -- fingerprints that that can lead to 12:56 2 operational failures in both criminal investigation and ability 12:56 3 to keep firearms out of dangerous people's hands? 12:56 12:56 4 Objection. Calls for speculation. MS. KRIEGER: 12:56 5 Α. Yes. BY MR. ALSAFFAR: 12:56 6 7 12:56 0. Okay. Do you -- did you ever do any work with the 8 confinement facility on the 49th -- in the 49th Squadron? 12:56 9 Α. I don't remember. 12:56 There's a -- the confinement facility that you 12:56 10 0. 11 ordered Devin Kelley to be kept in that was -- where was that 12:56 12 located? 12:56 13 Α. I don't know. 12:56 14 Forgive me. How come you don't know where the 12:57 0. 15 confinement facility is that you're ordering someone to be kept 12:57 16 in? How is that possible? 12:57 17 I was not told where the confinement facility was. 12:57 Α. 18 Okay. All right. I got to go back and unpack this a 12:57 0. 19 little bit because I'm a little confused. So let's just start 12:57 from the beginning, the June 8th letter. So do you have that 20 12:57 21 June 8th letter? It's in Exhibit 6. Just flip to it. 12:57 22 Α. Is that the confinement letter towards the end of 12:57 23 document? 12:57 24 0. It should be, yes. 12:57

25

13374?

Α.

12:57

1	Q. Yes. Okay. Your this letter and the accompanying	12:57
2	actual order accompanying the letter is you saying that that	12:57
3	he, Devin Kelley, needs to be put into this confinement	12:58
4	facility, right?	12:58
5	A. It is confirming that he needs to continue to be	12:58
б	confined.	12:58
7	Q. Right. He was already in confinement and you were	12:58
8	saying don't release him. He needs to be contained and to be	12:58
9	confined, right?	12:58
10	A. Correct.	12:58
11	Q. And did you did you not know where that	12:58
12	confinement facility was when you ordered him to stay in that	12:58
13	facility?	12:58
14	A. No.	12:58
15	Q. And the reason I ask that in part is like how would	12:58
16	you know to follow up and ensure that the folks at the	12:58
17	confinement facility had him there and he was there? I mean,	12:58
18	how how do you know to follow up on that if you don't know	12:58
19	where the facility is?	12:58
20	A. I don't know.	12:58
21	Q. Okay. Is there a confinement facility on Holloman	12:58
22	Air Force Base?	12:58
23	A. I don't know.	12:58
24	Q. Okay. Okay. Now, I want to ask you about something	12:58
25	that occurred throughout the military in two thousand it was	12:58
		]



		1
1	about 2015 timeframe. The Air Force and the in fact, every	12:59
2	military branch was being made aware that there were there	12:59
3	were systematic problems with every military organization	12:59
4	properly collecting fingerprints and properly submitting	12:59
5	fingerprints and properly submitting convictions of reportable	12:59
б	offenses under the various laws, mandatory laws. Are you aware	12:59
7	of that?	12:59
8	A. No.	12:59
9	Q. Okay. So you were at Holloman Air Force Base until	12:59
10	2014, correct?	12:59
11	A. Correct.	12:59
12	Q. Okay. And you've been working you've been	12:59
13	since that day and presently you're still working with various	12:59
14	Air Force bases including where we are today, right?	12:59
15	A. For the majority of that time, yes.	12:59
16	Q. Okay. During your time from well, from when you	12:59
17	were on base when Devin Kelley was there to currently, have you	12:59
18	has anyone in the Air Force or the Department of Defense	1:00
19	informed you or told you about the long time problems that the	1:00
20	Air Force has had prior to this shooting with properly	1:00
21	reporting, collecting fingerprints and reporting convictions to	1:00
22	the FBI?	1:00
23	MS. KRIEGER: Objection to form.	1:00
24	A. No.	1:00
25	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	1:00



		, 1
1	Q All right. Other than me, as I sit here today, has	1:00
2	anyone else talked to you about the Air Force's long-term	1:00
3	problems prior to this shooting with properly collecting and	1:00
4	submitting fingerprints to the FBI along with convictions to	1:00
5	the FBI?	1:00
б	A. No.	1:00
7	Q. So I'm the first person to do that?	1:00
8	A. Yes.	1:00
9	Q. Okay. Have you spoken to anybody at Holloman Air	1:00
10	Force Base that you used to work with while Devin Kelley, you	1:01
11	know, during the timeframe that he was there and talk to them	1:01
12	or they talk to you about the Air Force's correcting those	1:01
13	problems with its long-term problems with collecting and	1:01
14	submitting fingerprints and convictions to the FBI?	1:01
15	MS. KRIEGER: Objection to form.	1:01
16	A. No.	1:01
17	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	1:01
18	Q. No. Nobody has?	1:01
19	A. Not in my squadron.	1:01
20	Q. Okay.	1:01
21	A. I would say no one period.	1:01
22	Q. Okay. I don't know if I asked you this and I	1:01
23	apologize if I have. I just don't don't remember whether I	1:01
24	had. When did you find out about Devin Kelley's mass shooting	1:01
25	on November 5, 2017?	1:01
		1



1	A. I don't recall any specific date that I would have	1:01
2	done that.	1:01
3	Q. Generally when do you remember first hearing about	1:01
4	it?	1:01
5	A. Maybe within a couple of weeks. Maybe less.	1:02
б	Q. Did anyone from the Department of Defense, Inspector	1:02
7	General, or the Air Force, whether it's security forces, AFOSI	1:02
8	or anyone in the Air Force talk to you, interview you about	1:02
9	your knowledge of Devin Kelley while he was in your command?	1:02
10	A. No.	1:02
11	Q. Who was the first person to talk to you about Devin	1:02
12	Kelley, the mass shooting and his time under your command?	1:02
13	A. With that three criteria I don't know. Can you be	1:03
14	more specific in your question?	1:03
15	Q. Yeah. Yeah. I'm trying to find out you know, one	1:03
16	of the things we're trying to do here is find out sort of, you	1:03
17	know, what's been happening in the Air Force to try to correct	1:03
18	these these problems with these dangerous folks not being	1:03
19	reported to the FBI and not being indexed properly. I mean,	1:03
20	you're aware that this has been a massive problem for the Air	1:03
21	Force? Do you know that?	1:03
22	A. Not until I was told about it in this.	1:03
23	Q. Okay. And you told you that?	1:03
24	A. You.	1:03
25	Q. Okay. Were you aware that there are there were	1:03



1	thousands and thousands of convicted armed service members	1:03
2	between 2002 and 2017 that were not reported to the FBI that	1:03
3	should have been reported?	1:03
4	A. No.	1:03
5	Q. Did you know that?	1:03
б	It wasn't just Devin Kelley. There were thousands.	1:03
7	No one took am I the first person to tell you that?	1:03
8	A. Yes.	1:03
9	Q. Okay. So it's what is it, January 9, 2018, is the	1:03
10	first time anyone's told you that thousands and thousands of	1:03
11	convicts were not being reported by the military to the FBI?	1:04
12	MS. KRIEGER: It's 2020.	1:04
13	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	1:04
14	Q. Sorry. 2020.	1:04
15	A. Correct.	1:04
16	Q. All right. So I presume by that that let me	1:04
17	let me ask this question a different way. What, if any,	1:04
18	disciplinary measures were enacted against anybody in your	1:04
19	command at the 49th following this mass shooting?	1:04
20	A. I don't recall anything specific.	1:04
21	Q. That you're aware of? Are you aware let me ask it	1:04
22	this way: Are you aware of any disciplinary action that has	1:04
23	been taken against any Air Force member either in your specific	1:04
24	squadron or at Holloman Air Force Base related to the Devin	1:05
25	Kelley matter?	1:05



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1	A. No.	1:05
2	Q. I presume that you have never suffered any	1:05
3	disciplinary action as a result of his Devin Kelley matter; is	1:05
4	that fair to say?	1:05
5	A. Correct.	1:05
б	Q. All right. Nobody has told you well, I guess you	1:05
7	just told me that, that you're not aware of any. Nobody's ever	1:05
8	told you that on any other kind of disciplinary action taken	1:05
9	within Holloman Air Force Base, how many Holloman Air Force	1:05
10	Base employees that you're aware of, correct?	1:05
11	A. Regarding this case, no.	1:05
12	Q. Okay. Right. And I'm just talking about this	1:05
13	regarding the Devin Kelley events. And just to make sure that	1:05
14	I asked question or it wasn't contained in your prior answers,	1:05
15	are you aware of anybody above you and above your authority	1:05
16	level, supervisory level that has been disciplined in any way	1:05
17	for the Devin Kelley matter?	1:05
18	A. No.	1:05
19	MR. ALSAFFAR: Okay. Okay. Let's take a break and	1:05
20	look over my notes.	1:05
21	MS. KRIEGER: Okay.	1:05
22	(Brief break taken at 1:05 p.m.)	1:06
23	(Back on the record at 1:13 p.m.)	1:06
24	MR. ALSAFFAR: I pass the witness.	1:13
25	EXAMINATION	1:13



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		,
1	QUESTIONS BY MS. KRIEGER:	1:13
2	Q. Okay. Try to finish this up.	1:13
3	Mr. McLeod-Hughes, under what circumstances were you	1:13
4	acting director at Holloman?	1:14
5	A. Acting commander?	1:14
б	Q. Acting commander, I apologize, yes.	1:14
7	A. When my commander had to leave the area for any	1:14
8	extended period of time such as vacation time or if he was	1:14
9	attending a class or seminar in another location where he would	1:14
10	have to go TDY or temporary duty.	1:14
11	Q. So at any given time how how long would you have	1:14
12	been in the position of acting commander?	1:14
13	A. It could be anywhere from a few days to less than two	1:14
14	weeks.	1:14
15	Q. Okay. You were never acting commander for more than	1:14
16	two weeks?	1:14
17	A. I don't believe so. Typically acting commander	1:14
18	status is for a shorter period. It's it changes. There	1:14
19	would be other paperwork and processes to be done if the	1:14
20	commander would be gone longer than that.	1:14
21	Q. Normally if the commander was present who would write	1:15
22	or sign letters of reprimand?	1:15
23	A. The commander.	1:15
24	Q. And who would write or sign confinement orders?	1:15
25	A. The commander.	1:15



MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES January 09, 2020 HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA 158 1 But you were listed as a commander for the 1:15 0. 2 confinement order; is that right? 1:15 3 Α. Yes. 1:15 4 Do you know why you would have been? 1:15 0. No, I do not. 5 Α. 1:15 6 Okay. Would you as acting commander have had the 1:15 0. 7 authority to order someone to pretrial confinement? 1:15 8 Α. I don't know that answer. 1:15 Okay. Your title was director of operations; is that 9 0. 1:15 1:15 10 correct? 11 1:15 Α. Correct. 12 And what were your day-to-day responsibilities? 1:15 0. 13 My day-to-day responsibilities were to ensure our 1:15 Α. 14 operations with our customers occurred smoothly and safely. 1:15 15 Making sure that each of our sections were doing the larger, 1:16 16 bigger tasks that they would have to do. 1:16 17 As director were you ordinarily involved in personnel 1:16 0. 18 issues? 1:16 19 Α. No. 1:16 20 1:16 0. Did you directly supervise Devin Kelley in any way? 21 No, I did not. 1:16 Α. 22 0. Did you directly -- were you involved in any 1:16 23 day-to-day supervision of individuals? 1:16 24 Α. Yes. 1:16 How many individuals? Or what level of individuals? 25 Q. 1:16



1	A. I made reference earlier to several flights. It's	1:16
2	the name given to smaller organize smaller entities in the	1:16
3	squadron that are responsible for something specific. There	1:16
4	are also other smaller offices. I was responsible and oversaw	1:16
5	two of those smaller offices.	1:16
б	Q. How many airmen were in the 49th Logistics and	1:17
7	Readiness Squadron approximately?	1:17
8	A. Approximately 220. If not a few more.	1:17
9	Q. Did your day-to-day did anyone in the Logistics	1:17
10	and Readiness Squadron have any responsibilities requiring the	1:17
11	taking of fingerprints?	1:17
12	A. No.	1:17
13	MR. ALSAFFAR: Objection to form.	1:17
14	BY MS. KRIEGER:	1:17
15	Q. Did anyone in the Logistics and Readiness Squadron	1:17
16	have as part of their duties the responsibility to submit	1:17
17	fingerprints to the FBI?	1:17
18	MR. ALSAFFAR: Objection. Form.	1:17
19	A. No.	1:17
20	BY MS. KRIEGER:	1:17
21	Q. Did your position involve any duties or	1:17
22	responsibilities related to law enforcement?	1:17
23	A. No.	1:18
24	Q. Did you supervise any law enforcement personnel?	1:18
25	A. No.	1:18



	HOLCOIVIBE		160
1	Q.	Did you personally ever take fingerprints?	1:18
2	Α.	No.	1:18
3	Q.	Did you personally ever submit fingerprints to the	1:18
4	FBI?		1:18
5	Α.	No.	1:18
б	Q.	Why not?	1:18
7	Α.	That's not my position to do that.	1:18
8	Q.	Do you know whose position it would be to do that?	1:18
9	Α.	I know the security forces personnel take	1:18
10	fingerpri	nts, but I don't know who would submit it to the FBI.	1:18
11	Q.	When you wrote the memorandum you wrote the	1:18
12	memorandu	m and the confinement order. You signed, the	1:18
13	memorandu	m and confinement order for Devin Kelley to go into	1:18
14	pretrial	confinement, right?	1:18
15	Α.	Correct.	1:18
16	Q.	Do you know if Devin Kelley did in fact go into	1:18
17	pretrial	confinement?	1:18
18	Α.	No.	1:18
19	Q.	Can we just look at Exhibit 6 again, the big exhibit	2, 1:19
20	and we're	e looking at Page 13358, and we've already looked at	1:19
21	this. Th	is is the E-mail. It looks like it came from Master	1:19
22	Sergeant	Wolfe's E-mail. The second full paragraph and the	1:19
23	second se	entence says, "He will receive 150 days of credit	1:19
24	towards h	is 12 month sentence for the time he spent in pretria	al 1:19
25	confineme	ent." Did I read that right?	1:19



	Α.	Yes.
	Q.	Based on that did Devin Kelley go into pretrial
c	onfinem	ent?
	Α.	Yes.
	Q.	Okay. And it looks like the same exhibit, Page
1	3375.	This is this is in fact the page from your
m	emorand	um ordering Mr. Kelley into pretrial confinement,
c	orrect?	
	Α.	Correct.
	Q.	And let's look at Paragraph 6, and then the it's a
1	ong las	t sentence. The last sentence on this page, "After
1	earning	that he might be released from the mental health
f	acility	he deliberately planned to obtain another gunand
t	hen in j	parenthesisthe other gun having been taken away from
h	im," cl	osed parenthesis. Did I read that right?
	Α.	Yes.
	Q.	So at the time you wrote this memo you were is it
;   -	- were	you aware that Devin Kelley had at one time had a
) w	eapon?	
	Α.	Yes.
	Q.	And were you aware that Devin Kelley's weapon had
b	een tak	en away from him?
	Α.	Yes.
	Q.	Okay. Is there a reason that you might not have
s	cratch	that.



		-
1	Is it possible that the commander would have who	1
2	came back from wherever he was at the time this the an order	1
3	was written, is it possible that commander might have followed	1
4	up on this pretrial confinement order?	1
5	MR. ALSAFFAR: Objection. Form.	1
б	A. Yes.	1
7	BY MS. KRIEGER:	1
8	Q. Is the reason you didn't follow up possibly because	1
9	you were no longer acting commander at that time?	1
10	A. Yes.	1
11	Q. Okay. Just let me quickly look at my notes.	1
12	Just going back to the fingerprints very briefly.	1
13	Did you have any responsibilities or duties to check to see if	1
14	fingerprints had been collected or submitted?	1
15	A. No.	1
16	MR. ALSAFFAR: Objection to form.	1
17	BY MS. KRIEGER:	1
18	Q. Does your position or does the Logistics and	1
19	Readiness position Squadron are there Air Force instructions	1
20	associated with your work?	1
21	A. Yes.	1
22	Q. Do you know Air Force instructions have series	1
23	numbers, right?	1
24	A. Yes.	1
25	Q. Do you know what the series number is for the Air	1



Force in	struction associated with your job?
Α.	The majority of them are the 24 series.
Q.	Okay. Would you have any reason to look at Air Force
instruct	ions in the 31 series?
Α.	I don't know what I don't remember what the 31
series a	re.
Q.	Okay. Would you have any reason to look at Air Force
instruct	ions that didn't relate to your job position?
Α.	Occasionally, yes.
Q.	Okay. What reason would that be?
Α.	There are some there are some supervisory
responsi	bilities that we have that don't necessarily touch on
the logi	stics series. The 36 series are personnel.
Q.	Okay.
Α.	So oftentimes we would review some of those
regulato	ry references to see what it is if we try to help our
personne	1. There is occasionally some operational, the 10
series r	egulations and wing safety as a 95 series. I think
it's 95.	So there will be occasions where we would go outside
of our n	ormal regulations to look stuff up. If not going to
DoDI reg	ulations or other organizations that apply.
	MS. KRIEGER: Okay. I am done.
	EXAMINATION
QUESTION	S BY MR. ALSAFFAR:
Q.	Just a couple of quick follow up questions and we'll

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1	be done in just a sec. Find something really quick.	1:25
2	If you look at Exhibit 6, Page 13372. Remember the	1:26
3	Ms. Krieger was asking you about the gun that was retrieved	1:26
4	from Devin Kelley. Do you see the type of gun here that it	1:26
5	indicates?	1:26
6	A. Yes.	1:26
7	Q. Thirty-eight special, right?	1:26
8	A. Yes.	1:26
9	Q. Okay. Were you aware that in April 2012 Devin Kelley	1:26
10	also purchased another weapon, a 9mm semi automatic?	1:26
11	A. No.	1:26
12	Q. And that he purchased it at Holloman Air Force Base?	1:26
13	A. Is that the same weapon that was referenced in the	1:26
14	previous documentation for trying to purchase?	1:26
15	Q. I'm asking you about whether you were aware that he	1:26
16	purchased a	1:26
17	A. No.	1:26
18	Q 9mm semi-automatic at Holloman Air Force Base	1:26
19	Exchange in April 2012?	1:26
20	A. No.	1:26
21	Q. Okay. Are you aware that he purchased that 38	1:26
22	revolver referenced in that document also at Holloman Air Force	1:26
23	Base Exchange?	1:26
24	A. No.	1:26
25	Q. Okay. And I think you indicated that you had no	1:27
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1	involvement or took any action to ensure those multiple weapons	1:27
2	were taken from Devin Kelley after he was convicted or after he	1:27
3	was put into pretrial confinement by your order, correct?	1:27
4	A. Correct.	1:27
5	Q. Okay. Ms. Krieger asked you a little bit about sort	1:27
б	of the chain of command and I think I want to make sure I'm	1:27
7	clear on this. Was Devin Kelley in your chain of command?	1:27
8	A. No.	1:27
9	Q. Okay. Whose chain of command was he in?	1:27
10	A. He was in Colonel Marconi's chain of command at the	1:27
11	time. Lieutenant Colonel Marconi.	1:27
12	Q. Okay. And you were second in command under	1:27
13	Lieutenant Marconi, correct?	1:27
14	A. Correct.	1:27
15	Q. All right. And then Devin Kelley was underneath you	1:27
16	in rank?	1:27
17	A. Underneath me in rank, correct.	1:27
18	Q. Okay. And I think you mentioned that there were 200	1:27
19	or so airmen in your command at Holloman Air Force Base while	1:27
20	Devin Kelley was there?	1:28
21	A. Correct.	1:28
22	Q. Is that is that right? And I know that's a guess,	1:28
23	that's an approximate number, right?	1:28
24	A. Yes.	1:28
25	Q. Okay. So approximately 200 airmen. How many of	1:28



		1
1	those airmen had threatened mass violence against folks at	. -
2	Holloman Air Force Base while you were there in 2011 to '12?	
3	A. I'm not aware of any.	
4	Q. Other than?	
5	A. Other than Airman Kelley.	
б	Q. Okay. Airman Kelley is the only airman out of those	
7	200 or so while you were acting commander at Holloman Air Force	
8	Base who threatened mass violence, correct?	
9	A. Correct.	
10	Q. And he was the only airman out of those 200 or so	
11	airmen that had both threatened mass violence, escaped from a	
12	mental institution, and was looking for guns and body armor	
13	while he was in the mental institution, correct?	
14	MS. KRIEGER: Objection to form.	
15	BY MR. ALSAFFAR:	
16	Q. Is that a fair statement?	
17	A. Fair statement.	.
18	MR. ALSAFFAR: Okay. I don't have anymore questions.	.
19	Pass the witness.	.
20	MS. KRIEGER: Nothing further.	.
21	MR. ALSAFFAR: Thank you, sir. We're done. You	
22	don't have to stay here anymore. I appreciate it.	
23	COURT REPORTER: Counsel, I just need to get your	
24	transcript orders.	
25	MS. KRIEGER: We're going to read and sign.	
		1



		MR. ALSAFFAR: I will be the only one ordering. So
	1	have an E-mail PDF copy of the transcript and PDF
		the exhibits.
<u> </u>	lall OI	(Deposition concluded at 1:29 p.m.)
		(Deposition concluded at 1.29 p.m.) * * * * *
	FS	QUIRE 800.211.DEPO (3376 EsquireSolutions.com

Γ

1	REPORTER CERTIFICATION
2	I, ROBIN L. STRANIMEIER, a Registered Professional
3	Reporter and Certified Shorthand Reporter in the State of
4	Illinois, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that pursuant to agreement between
5	counsel there appeared before me on January 9, 2020, at Scott
6	Air Force Base, 375AMW/JA, 101 Heritage Drive, Suite 210, Scott
7	Air Force Base, Illinois 62225, MAJOR NATHAN McLEOD-HUGHES, who
8	was first duly sworn by me to tell the whole truth of all
9	knowledge touching upon the matter in controversy aforesaid so
10	far as the witness should be interrogated concerning the same;
11	that the witness was examined and said examination was taken
12	down in shorthand by me and afterwards transcribed, signature
13	having been RESERVED by agreement of counsel, and said
14	deposition is herewith returned.
15	Dated this 23rd day of January, 2020.
16	Robin L'Stranimeier
17	Robin L. Stranimeier, RPR, CSR
18	CSR #084-004700 RPR #058512
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
	<b>ESQUIRE</b> <b>800.211.DEPO (337</b> <b>EsquireSolutions.co</b>

1 2	Reference No.: 4848768
3 4	Case: HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA
	DECLARATION UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY
5	
	I declare under penalty of perjury that
6	I have read the entire transcript of my Depo-
	sition taken in the captioned matter or the
7	same has been read to me, and the same is
	true and accurate, save and except for
8	changes and/or corrections, if any, as indi-
	cated by me on the DEPOSITION ERRATA SHEET
9	hereof, with the understanding that I offer
	these changes as if still under oath.
10	
11	
12	Major Nathan Mcleod-Hughes
13	
14	NOTARIZATION OF CHANGES
15	(If Required)
16	
17	Subscribed and sworn to on the day of
18	
19	, 20 before me,
20	
21	(Notary Sign)
22	
23	(Print Name) Notary Public,
24	
25	in and for the State of



MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES
HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA

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Major N	athan Mcleo	d-Hughes	5		

MAJOR NATHAN MCLEOD-HUGHES
HOLCOMBE vs UNITED STATES of AMERICA

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