THE COURT: I don't know about that. I thought Exhibit I was a portion of what was in the file.

MS. SMITH: Exhibit I, just to explain, there are documents that can be explored (inaudible) those really are all part of the investigative -- those are the records that have been provided to our office as the investigative file. There are investigative reports and documents attached to them. I just, for completeness, I did ask the policeman, Do you have anything else.

THE COURT: Okay. So, you still want anything else -- (Attorney and Judge speaking over each other).

MS. SMITH: I had printed 100 pages off of a website, but they hadn't put that with the Bates stamp, but those are part of what were produced.

MR. ERVIN: Is it part of the 2,938 records, though, if it doesn't have a Bates stamp number?

MS. SMITH: If they didn't have a Bates stamp, they're not part of the 200 --

THE COURT: Is there anything else outside the Bates stamped documents that would be part of this

inquiry? I think that's the second level of the question.

MS. SMITH: Not other -- not all the correspondence between the Attorney General's Office and --

THE COURT: Well, those are exempt anyway. I think counsel's agreed.

MR. ERVIN: Your Honor, what I wanted is just -- the representation that's been made that they produced a stack of documents in this case, and, again, a lot of it is just generic materials that were pulled off the internet that anybody would have had access to.

THE COURT: Uh-huh.

MR. ERVIN: And, so, I just wanted to confirm that that 2,938 records which this detective has listed in his affidavit that comprised the investigation, file, there's been an extremely limited number of those records that were produced to us, I believe less than 50 based upon the Bates stamp records that were provided to me.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. ERVIN: There was a large stack of

1 documents that do not contain the Bates stamps, which 2 I believe the State is telling us is other information 3 that was in the file but is not comprised in that 2,938 records, and while I appreciate that the 4 5 majority of the records they claim are these narrative 6 reports, I would still believe, based upon everything 7 that's been assembled to date, there are several portions of those records that could be produced to 8 9 us. 10 THE COURT: Well, then, it meets a subject to 11 bring in camera inquiry. 12 MR. ERVIN: Yes, correct. THE COURT: Okay. Let's proceed. 13 14 (End of bench conference) 15 IN OPEN COURT: 16 CONTINUING EXAMINATION BY MR. ERVIN: 17 0. I apologize for the delay, Detective. So the record is clear, you are not currently 18 19 assigned specifically to the Maura Murray case? 20 No. A. 21 Okay. Do you know how many detectives 0. 22 assigned to Troop F are currently actively involved

in or assigned some duties with respect to the Maura

Murray case?

A. Right now there are three detectives in the unit, so my answer would be three.

- Q. Of any of the three, are you aware if any of the three are specifically assigned with duties regarding the ongoing investigation into the Murray case?
  - A. I guess, define "specifically."

    THE COURT: Somebody had this case on their

10 roster to handle.

THE WITNESS: Yes.

## CONTINUING EXAMINATION BY MR. ERVIN:

- Q. How often would a detective that's working on this file perform work on the file, with what level of frequency?
- A. I think what you're looking for is an answer of, you know, 40 hours a week, 20 hours a week. I can't give that to you. As information comes in, it's looked into, investigated to -- as far as it can be.
- Q. Well, Detective, at the last hearing that we were here on, it was represented that this case was looked at daily. Is it your understanding

- 1 that this case is looked at on a daily basis by your
  2 department?
  - A. Yeah, I would say prob -- yeah, on a daily basis to different levels.
  - Q. But do you have personal knowledge as to whether or not this file is looked at on a daily basis?
    - A. I can tell you from my --
  - Q. My question is, do you specifically have personal knowledge that this case is looked at on a daily basis?
    - A. Yeah, it was.

- Q. I'm not asking if it was. I'm asking you today, do you know whether or not this case is specifically looked at on a daily basis by your department?
  - A. Daily, meaning 7 days a week?
  - O. Correct.
- A. To certain -- again, I go back to the when information comes in, it's looked into. Now, whether it has to take -- other cases come in and those have to be looked at too, you know. Today it might be 5 minutes, tomorrow it might be 8 hours.

THE COURT: I think what counsel's inquiring is, does somebody sit down at 9:00 every morning, for example, during the work week and look at this case as a regular part of their routine? I suspect the answer to that is no --

THE WITNESS: No.

THE COURT: -- based on your testimony, that a case is -- the file is pulled up and looked at as information is matched to the file and drawn to the attention of a fellow detective who then would be working on that piece of information in connection with the file.

THE WITNESS: Correct.

THE COURT: Okay.

## CONTINUING EXAMINATION BY MR. ERVIN:

- Q. I think you testified earlier that there are periods of inactivity on this case.
- A. Yes, and I explained why that would occur.
- Q. Detective, you were asked on direct examination whether or not you could be certain that this case is going to end up in a criminal enforcement proceeding, and I believe your testimony

was is that you can't state whether or not; is that 1 2 correct? 3 Yes. A. So, the information that's been 0. 4 assembled to date could lead to the conclusion that 6 this -- there was no criminal activity involving 7 Maura's disappearance? It could. I mean, it's unknown at this 8 A. 9 point. 10 0. So, you can't be certain that this -that there will ever be an enforcement proceeding 11 12 involving this case? I can't be certain. 13 A. MR. ERVIN: Your Honor, subject to my 14 reservations made at side bar about the level of 15 inquiry into the records, I have no further questions 16 for this --17 THE COURT: All right. Thank you, Counsel. 18 Ms. Smith, anything further of Detective Landry? 19 MS. SMITH: We also have Attorney Jeffrey 20 Strelzin here. 21 THE COURT: Are we done with Detective --22 MS. SMITH: Yes. 23

THE COURT: Okay. You can step down, 1 2 Detective. Thank you. (Witness stepped down) 3 THE COURT: Ms. Smith. 4 MS. SMITH: We also have Attorney Jeffrey 5 Strelzin, who is the prosecutor, who has been involved 6 7 with the State Police here, and we would offer to put him on the stand and have him testify as well. THE COURT: You may do so. 9 JEFFREY STRELZIN, ESQ. 10 a witness being first duly sworn, was examined and 11 testified as follows: 12 DIRECT EXAMINATION 13 14 BY MS. SMITH: Could you, please, state your name for 15 0. the record and explain to us what your position is in 16 the Attorney General's Office. 17 Sure. My first name is Jeffrey, which 18 Α. is J-E-F-F-R-E-Y, and my last name is Strelzin, 19 which is S-T-R-E-L-Z-I-N. I'm currently a Senior 20 Assistant Attorney General at the New Hampshire 21 Attorney General's Office. I also work as the Chief 22 of the Homicide Unit and, essentially, I supervise 23

the Homicide Unit.

- Q. And have you been involved with the State Police in regards to the Maura Murray investigation?
- A. I have. There have actually been other prosecutors involved as well, sometimes with an overlap. There have actually been, I think, three of us involved in the case.
- Q. And do you know how long the Attorney General's Office has been involved in the investigation?
- A. I believe our first activity was approximately 10 days after Maura's reported disappearance, so I know it was in February of 2004.

  I think the exact date is February 19th, but it could have been a little earlier than that.
- Q. How long have you personally been involved in the investigation?
- A. I believe I got involved late in 2004, after the case transitioned from another attorney in our office who left, and then actually there were two of us involved in the case, and that attorney has since left as well, so now it is me alone.

1 Q. And you are still involved with the 2 State Police in regards to this investigation? I am. 3 A . And are you familiar with what has been 4 0. withheld and what has been produced in this case? 5 Tam. 6 A. And how long -- and you've been doing 7 0. criminal prosecutions for how long? 8 I've been a prosecutor, I believe, 9 about 10 years, and I have other law enforcement 10 experience prior to that, but I've been a prosecutor 11 12 about 10 years. Based on your involvement with this 13 investigation and your knowledge of the file, do you 14 have an opinion as to whether or not it is more 15 likely than not that this investigation may lead to 16 17 criminal charges? I do. 18 A. What is your opinion? 19 Q. I would have to say it's more likely. 20 A. That it will lead to criminal charges? 21 Q. 22 Α. Yes. Do you know whether there is activity 23 Q.

that is planned on being pursued in this investigation in the future?

- A. There is further investigative activity that's planned.
- Q. Can you set a time frame on how long it may take to determine whether or not you are going to be able to bring criminal charges in this case?
- A. I can't. I mean, we have within the last few years -- we have prosecuted two 20-year-old murder cases. I'm working on a variety of cases that are older cases. We're actively pursuing a 35-year-old murder case in our office. So, there are murder cases that are solved within hours, days, weeks, months, years and sometimes decades. Every case is different, that's why there's no statute of limitations on murder, and, again, that assumes that this case ends up as a criminal investigation.
- Q. Is it important, while you are pursuing the possibility of criminal charges, that the material that has been withheld not be revealed?
  - A. It is critically important.
  - Q. And why is that?
  - A. There are a variety of reasons, but, I

mean, if I can use an analogy, your Honor, it's akin to giving someone a test and giving them the answers beforehand. If we were to reveal our investigatory file, it will tell potential witnesses what we know, and when we go to speak to those witnesses we want to know what they know firsthand as opposed to what they may have learned through the public or the press or other witnesses.

It's a truth-telling device that we use often in cases. We want to know information and only keep it amongst ourselves so we can tell if someone is truly involved in a case or if they simply want to be involved. Unfortunately, we have cases where individuals claim to have involvement in criminal activity, sometimes claim to be the perpetrator, but we're able to determine, based on information we've kept secret, that that individual is not the perpetrator, at the same time, individuals who claim to have knowledge about a case and we're able to use the information, information that is only known to us in order to tell whether or not they're being truthful or not. So, it's a very important device for us, not only to advance the investigation down

the road but just to be able to tell who truly knows things and who's a liar.

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- Q. Can you know at this stage what piece of evidence or statement by a witness is going to be important?
- I can't, and that's where I think my A. role as a prosecutor is distinguishable from what the investigators do, and it's part of the reason that we work together on potential homicide cases. know that this case will end up as a criminal case, which means I don't know what a perpetrator or perpetrator will claim as a defense, which means I don't know how important every piece of evidence will be, or what piece of evidence will prove to be critical, or what may factor into a defense or an alibi, and because I can't anticipate those things, that means that potentially every piece of evidence is important in the future, and because some of our cases take so long to solve, I can't predict what will happen with that piece of information and how it may prove to be critical later on, and it happens frequently in cases that are of an historical or older nature. I don't know what will happen, I don't

know what a potential defendant will do. So, I can't represent to the Court that one piece of information is necessarily more important than another. It could all prove important or some categories could prove to be less important.

Q. Do you think that revealing the

- Q. Do you think that revealing the withheld information in this case would adversely affect your ability to prosecute someone?
- A. If there's a prosecution, yes, it has that potential, and, again, there may be categories that would be more devastating to reveal than others. It's impossible for me to give that kind of specific without knowing whether or not a homicide actually occurred and what those circumstances were, but I acknowledge that possibility, and I know in cases what can happen if information is revealed before we're able to make an arrest and prosecute the case.

MS. SMITH: I don't have any further questions for --

THE COURT: Counsel.

MR. ERVIN: Thank you, your Honor.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MR. ERVIN:

Q. Mr. Strelzin, how often does your office review this matter?

- A. I would say it probably averages about once a month, and it's more frequent if things arise, for instance, if a piece of information comes in or if there's an inquiry from a detective at Troop F about something in particular, or if we're meeting to discuss plans in the future. So, it depends on what's going on.
- Q. Is there anybody at your office other than yourself that's working on this file?
- A. Just me right now. If I need additional assistance, I can ask for it, but right now it's just me.
- Q. Okay. When was the last time you had an opportunity to review the file on this case, other than coming to court today?
  - A. Last night.
- Q. Was that as a result of what you characterize as an ongoing investigation into the case?
- A. I reviewed it last night to prepare for today.

- Q. For today. Well, prior to that time, when was the last time you had looked at this file as part of the ongoing investigation into the --
  - A. Within the last month.

- Q. When was the last time you had an opportunity to communicate with any of the detectives involved with the investigation prior to coming to court today?
- A. Nothing to do with this court hearing. Probably a couple of weeks ago.
  - O. And who initiated that contact?
- A. I think we talked about it, because we were meeting about another case and there are other detectives in the Major Crime Unit that I talk to besides the ones in Troop F who are working on other murder cases who were involved in this case, and, so we discussed it at the same time.
- Q. Do you have a set frequency with which you meet with the detectives to discuss this case?
  - A. No.
- Q. Have there been periods of time that have gone by longer than a month where you have had no communication with the detectives involving this

1 case?

- A. There may have been.
- Q. Do you know how long a period of time may have passed between some of the communications between your office and the detectives?
- A. The longest period of time, I would say maybe six weeks.
- Q. And the information that's been assembled to date has not led to the conclusion that this is definitively going to end in a criminal prosecution?
  - A. That's correct.
- Q. So, you can't state with certainty that an enforcement proceeding is likely to occur in this matter?
- A. I could give the judge a percentage based on my experience, generally, in criminal investigations, a prosecution on this case, I could give a percentage of what I think that likelihood is, but I acknowledge that there's also a likelihood that this could simply be a missing person's case that doesn't have criminal overtones. There are cases I'm involved with where people go missing, and,

fortunately, we find them and it turns out there's not criminal activity, and there are other cases, unfortunately, that end up as being the result of criminal activity.

- Q. So, and I think you testified before, so this could be a situation where it could be 1 year, 5 years, 10 years, even 20 years before you know whether or not an enforcement proceeding would likely occur?
- A. Or potentially never. I mean, I think the -- I'll tell you, Counsel, the oldest unsolved case we're working on is 35 years old right now.
- Q. So, would it be speculative, then, to suggest that the release of records could implicate or impede an enforcement proceeding when there's no likelihood that an enforcement proceeding is likely to occur or ever occur?
- A. I mean, I would disagree with that term, because I think "speculation" sounds like guess work, and what we do is not guess work, it's based on our common experience, it's based on our knowledge of this case and what's happened in other cases.

You know, if every time an individual

went missing I turned over our file, and then that person ended up dead, we would never be able to prosecute that killer. So, you know, I know there's been some discussion here about how do we characterize this case. Well, it truly is a missing person case, Maura Murray is missing, but it's an investigation that law enforcement is conducting into her disappearance. It certainly has criminal overtones to it, that's why our office is involved and that's why the State Police are doing this.

But you're right, I can't sit here and tell you today with 100 percent certainty that we're going to prosecute someone for the disappearance of Maura Murray because I know it's a homicide. I can't tell you that.

- Q. But if information is released, that wouldn't prevent the State from being able to prosecute someone, should it turn out to be a criminal case; is that correct?
- A. I disagree with you. I disagree with you.
- Q. So, if there was a release of any information, that would prevent the State from being

able to meaningfully conduct a criminal prosecution?

A. No. Actually, I think the information that has been agreed to as far as being released will not damage the investigation. I think there are certainly categories of information that could be harmful, and I believe that's why we've asked that it be withheld, but, no, there are certainly some categories that can be released, I think, without harming the investigation.

Q. And other than the records that have been produced to us, every other record that's of the 2,938 records that are contained within this investigation file you're satisfied that none of -- that all of them fall within the investigatory exception or the privacy exception to the -- to FOIA?

A. I am. And, again, obviously some of what I have to do is based on conjecture about what could happen in the future, but, you know, looking at records and looking at the status of this case, yes, I believe that releasing those documents could harm us in the future.

Again, I don't know what happened to Maura Murray. I'm hopeful that it's not a homicide

investigation, but if it is, I can't tell you which one of those pieces of information could prove to be the critical piece, and I certainly wouldn't want her killer or killers to be able to go free because we released those documents.

- Q. Is it typical that your office would become involved in a missing person's investigation, similar to what's going on in Maura's case?
- typical, it does happen. We obviously get involved in obvious homicides, we get involved in suspicious deaths, and we do get involved in missing person's cases, and I will tell you that the longer the case goes on, meaning, the longer the individual is missing, obviously, the higher the level of concern, because you would hope that if an individual just decided for whatever reason to take off for a period of time because of issues in their life, that sooner or later they would contact family members.

And a recent example is a young lady in Goffstown who went missing. We did get involved in that case, and luckily it turned out that she was in Florida and she had had some family difficulties and

she turned up, but there are other missing person's cases that I've been involved with where people have been missing for decades, and certainly the longer it goes on, I think the more concerned we all become that that individual is the victim of foul play.

So, in this case, obviously, it's gone on for what I'd call a substantial period of time. That raises our level of concern. So, we do get involved the longer it goes, that's one factor, and then the other factor is what level of assistance is needed. Is there legal work that needs to be done, are there subpoenas, is there potentially Grand Jury work, is there a request for one-party or body wire intercepts? Those types of things will bring us into the case.

- Q. And my understanding from your testimony is, is that your office became involved in this very shortly after her disappearance?
- A. From looking back at the records, I mean, the first hard indication I have is, I believe it's February 19th of 2004.
- Q. So I understand you correctly, it was a lengthy answer, it is sort of atypical that your

office is involved in this case as a missing person's case?

- A. It's atypical that we get involved in missing person's cases, but I would say it's typical in a case like this because of, number one, the length of time that the individual has been missing and, number two, because of the type of requests that have been made for assistance. So, we don't typically do missing person's cases unless it looks like it's an obvious homicide, or it has those overtones.
- Q. So, the involvement of your office was not to have the records that have been assimilated to date somehow be withheld from the petitioners simply because the Attorney General's Office has become involved in the investigation?
- A. No, and I don't mean to be sarcastic when I say this, but we have plenty of other work to do, and I've never received what we call a specious request from the State Police or any law enforcement agency just to get us involved for no reason. I mean, we would never do that. We got involved initially from looking at the file because there was

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     some investigative techniques that wanted to be
     exploited, and we could be of assistance in that, and
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     that's, I think, how we initially got involved.
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             MR. ERVIN: Your Honor, can we approach?
             THE COURT: Yes.
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                          AT THE BENCH:
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             THE COURT: Mr. Ervin.
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             MR. ERVIN: I just wanted to preserve for the
    record that -- is this witness going to be subject to
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    the in camera --
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             THE COURT: Yes.
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             MR. ERVIN: -- as well? Then, I will not
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    inquire into the specific documents.
             THE COURT: Fine.
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                   (End of bench conference)
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                          IN OPEN COURT:
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             MR. ERVIN: I have no further questions.
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    Thank you, your Honor.
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             THE COURT: Ms. Smith.
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             MS. SMITH: I just had one thing to follow up
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    on.
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                      REDIRECT EXAMINATION
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    BY MS. SMITH:
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1 Q. You indicated in responding to Attorney 2 Ervin that you could give him a percentage that you 3 have in your mind of likelihood. What is that 4 percentage regarding whether the likelihood of this 5 results in a criminal case? 6 I mean, I'd say it's probably 75 7 percent. 8 Pardon? 0. 9 I'd say it's probably 75 percent. A. 10 Thank you. 0. 11 THE COURT: Thank you. You may step down. 12 THE WITNESS: Thank you, your Honor. 13 (Witness stepped down) 14 THE COURT: Anything further from the State? 15 MR. ERVIN: I do not have anything further on 16 our presentation. The State is willing and able to 17 have the witnesses that have given public testimony present further in camera testimony to the Court for 18 19 the reasons stated in our motion for in camera, and in our motion for reconsideration we do think it is very 20 21 important that that be to the Court alone. 22 THE COURT: Understood. Mr. Ervin. 23 MR. ERVIN: Your Honor, reserving the

objections that we had put on the record concerning in camera testimony, we believe that that level of inquiry is necessary in this case to test the sufficiency of the categorization of the documents for the Court to make its determination whether or not the exemptions in their description of documents is sufficient to satisfy His Honor that the investigatory exception has been appropriately invoked in this case, and we would submit that that is -- that level of inquiry is necessary to be conducted by the Court in camera.

THE COURT: Motion for in camera is granted.

I will take in camera testimony. The State has filed a motion to reconsider a small portion of my order with respect to the in camera testimony.

Counsel, any position on the State's Motion to Reconsider?

MR. ERVIN: Your Honor, we are going to heed His Honor's advice and are comfortable that in camera review of the testimony can be handled by His Honor without the counsel for the petitioner present.

THE COURT: All right. Motion to Reconsider to that small portion of the order is granted.

This hearing is adjourned, and it will resume in chambers, in camera, and it will take a couple of minutes to get set up.

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Anything further for the record, Counsel? MR. ERVIN: Your Honor, did you want us to make presentations? I mean, I had submitted a brief in this case specifically on the remand. Just for the record, to preserve that in the Supreme Court's decision remanding this matter down, they specifically stated on page 4 of that decision that they were assuming without deciding that an enforcement proceeding could reasonably be anticipated, and, therefore, they would then determine whether or not the sufficiency of the invoked categories would be appropriate, and I would suggest that the inquiry that His Honor is conducting here is first to determine whether or not the State has met the threshold requirements to invoke the investigatory exception, that being that this is an ongoing investigation that could ultimately lead to a criminal prosecution, and the case law is very clear. The Curran case, as the Supreme Court articulated in its decision, the Beavis versus State case, the Chicago versus ATF case, that

it has to be a reasonably anticipated enforcement proceeding, cannot be speculative, and I do not believe that the State has met that burden with the majority of the records other than the records that we have, based upon the privacy exception, agreed fall outside of the purview of the public records statute, that the majority of the records, the investigative reports and the like, based upon the presentation of testimony and the grounds for the invocation, that the exemption has not been met, and that if the State's position is adopted, I think that the exception, therefore, is swallowing the rule, which is the concern that the State has said and the Supreme Court said in the National Labor Relations versus Robbins Tire, that you cannot endlessly protect information simply because it's an investigatory file. has to show how that's going to impact or reasonably impact an anticipated enforcement proceeding, and I don't believe that there's been any competent testimony that that is a likelihood in this case. THE COURT: All right. Thank you, Counsel. All right. We'll adjourn the hearing at this point.

Once I finish the in camera testimony, the matter will

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1 be taken under advisement. Any additional memoranda that you'd like to submit, Counsel? 2 3 MR. ERVIN: If your Honor would like us to submit further memoranda, I'm comfortable with the 4 5 brief that we had submitted. 6 THE COURT: I'm satisfied -- yeah. I'm 7 satisfied what's here, but you have an opportunity, if 8 you'd like to. If not, I'll accept what's here and 9 issue a written decision once I've had an opportunity to review all of the material. 10 11 MR. ERVIN: Okay. I would rest on my papers, 12 your Honor. Do you need me to stay around? Are there 13 going to be any questions? 14 THE COURT: You do not have to stay. 15 MR. ERVIN: Thank you. 16 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. 17 THE BAILIFF: All rise. (Hearing suspended at 10:29 a.m.) 18 19 (In camera hearing held on the record - audio 20 recording and transcript placed under seal per order 21 of Supreme Court) 22 23

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## TRANSCRIBER'S CERTIFICATE

I, Brenda K. Hancock, a New Hampshire

Court-approved transcriptionist, do hereby certify

that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the

official electronic sound recording of the proceedings

in the above-entitled matter, to the best of my

professional ability, skill, knowledge and belief.

Date 10/12/37

Brenda K. Hancock