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BEFORE THE HUNTSVILLE POLICE CITIZENS

ADVISORY COUNCIL

VIDEO-CONFERENCE INTERVIEW

OF

JERRY BURNET

FEBRUARY 4, 2021

2:00 P.M.

COURT REPORTER: Diana B. Williams, CCR

		Page 2
1	A P P E A R A N C E S	
2		
3	[ALL APPEARING VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE]	
4		
5	INDEPENDENT COUNSEL FOR HUNTSVILLE POLICE	
6	CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL:	
7	MS. ELIZABETH H. HUNTLEY, ESQ.	
8	LIGHTFOOT FRANKLIN & WHITE	
9	400 NORTH 20TH STREET	
10	THE CLARK BUILDING	
11	BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35203	
12		
13	INDEPENDENT COUNSEL STAFF FOR HUNTSVILLE	
14	POLICE CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL:	
15	ROBERT J. SEWELL, ESQ.	
16	LIGHTFOOT FRANKLIN & WHITE	
17	400 NORTH 20TH STREET	
18	THE CLARK BUILDING	
19	BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35203	
20		
21		
22		
23		

	Page 3
1	APPEARANCES
2	(CONTINUED)
3	
4	MEMBERS OF ADVISORY COUNCIL PRESENT:
5	Ms. Victoria Guerrieri, Chair
6	Mr. W.J. Love, Co-Chair
7	Ms. Shelly McCulley
8	Mr. David Little
9	
10	ALSO PRESENT:
11	Ms. Susan Harper, White-Collar
12	Specialist Paralegal with Lightfoot,
13	Franklin & White
14	Ms. Diana Williams, Court Reporter
15	with Birmingham Reporting
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	

		Page 4
1	I, Diana B. Williams, a Certified	
2	Shorthand Reporter of Birmingham, Alabama,	
3	and a Notary Public for the State of	
4	Alabama at Large, acting as Commissioner,	
5	certify that on this date, there came	
6	before me VIA VIDEO-CONFERENCE, commencing	
7	at approximately 2:00 p.m. on February 4,	
8	2021, JERRY BURNET, for oral examination,	
9	whereupon the following proceedings were	
10	had:	
11		
12	MS. GUERRIERI: Okay. Well,	
13	first of all, I want to thank Mr. Burnet	
14	for coming and speaking with us today on	
15	this interview by Zoom. We appreciate your	
16	time very much.	
17	I will go ahead and call roll.	
18	I don't know I know David is coming in	
19	at 2:30. He had a prior work engagement.	
20	So let me call roll. Is Willie	
21	Love here?	
22	MR. LOVE: Yes, here.	
23	MS. GUERRIERI: Okay. Thank	

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Page 5
 1
     you, Willie.
 2
                John Olshefski?
 3
                (No response.)
                MS. GUERRIERI: John Reitzell?
 4
 5
                (No response.)
 6
                MS. GUERRIERI: Ruben Flores?
 7
                (No response.)
 8
                MS. GUERRIERI: David is coming
 9
     in at 2:30.
10
                Gregory Bentley?
11
                (No response.)
12
                MS. GUERRIERI: Jonathan Rossow,
13
     he cannot make any of the two today due to
14
     work commitments.
15
                Shelly, I know you are here.
16
                MS. MCCULLEY: Yes, ma'am.
17
                MS. GUERRIERI: And Wiley Day?
18
                (No response.)
19
                MS. GUERRIERI: They might be
20
     coming in a little bit later on, but we
21
     will go ahead and get started since it's
22
     two o'clock.
23
                And at this point, I will hand
```

Page 6

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1
     the meeting over to Liz. And thank you
2
    very much.
3
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. Great.
     First of all, Mr. Burnet, let me thank you
 4
5
     for -- thank you for your time. Can you
    hear me okay? I see you leaning. Is that
 6
7
    better?
8
                MR. BURNET: Well, I have a
9
    problem with hearing anyway, you know, but
10
     it sounds like you are talking in a -- you
11
    are down in a -- in a -- in a hole talking.
12
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. Well, I am
13
    getting closer to the microphone. Is that
    better?
14
15
               MR. BURNET: That's much
16
    better -- somewhat better.
17
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. Great.
18
    Okay.
            I was a little far away. I was
19
    being a little camera-shy.
20
                So you and I have already
21
    talked, and you voluntarily agreed to allow
    us to interview you regarding the protest
22
23
     that occurred back in June in the city of
```

Page 7

1 Huntsville.

2	And first of all, let me say
3	thank you for that. Thank you for giving
4	us your time today to talk with us so that
5	we can understand those events and the
6	and as attorneys for the CAC help them do
7	their job of investigating the facts and
8	what happened surrounding those events in
9	June.
10	And you're a pretty key part of
11	that since one of the protests, your name
12	is on the permit for one of the protests.
13	So there is no way we can investigate the
14	facts without talking to you.
15	With that said, I'm going to
16	start with some little introductory stuff
17	that we do when we have an interview so we
18	can learn a little bit about the person we
19	are taking the interview from. And I'm
20	going to ask you a request, if you will
21	honor it to not discuss this interview with
22	anyone. I mean, it's okay to say that
23	you've been interviewed by us. We want

```
Page 8
1
    people to know that the CAC is working and
2
     investigating.
3
                But because we are going to talk
     to other people, you know, we prefer that
 4
5
     whoever we do talk to, they keep it between
     us and -- and -- so that we can finish out
 6
7
     this investigation.
8
                MR. BURNET: Okay.
9
                MS. HUNTLEY: So we respectfully
10
     request that you will do that.
11
                So just for the record, will you
12
     state your full name.
13
                MR. BURNET: Okay. My full name
14
     is Jerry Lee Burnet.
15
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay.
16
                MR. BURNET: Burnet with one
17
     "t."
18
                MS. HUNTLEY: With one "t."
19
                (Reporter clarification.)
20
                THE WITNESS:
                             Jerry, J-e-r-r-y.
21
                MS. HUNTLEY: And, Jerry, that
22
    was the court reporter taking down the
23
     statements for us. And so it will be
```

```
Page 9
1
    helpful, just so you know -- and I don't
    anticipate this happening, but if we could
2
3
    talk one at a time. So as she's taking
     things down, she can understand what
 4
5
     everyone is saying.
6
                MR. BURNET: Okay.
7
                MS. HUNTLEY: So, Mr. Burnet,
8
    are you married? Do you have a spouse
9
    there in Huntsville?
10
                MR. BURNET: I have a wife, yes.
11
    I'm married. I've been married for some
12
    20 years plus.
13
                MS. HUNTLEY: 20-plus years?
14
                MR. BURNET: 20 years. I just
15
    married in -- we got married in 2000. So,
16
    you know.
17
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay.
18
                MR. BURNET: About 21 years.
19
               MS. HUNTLEY: You've passed the
20
    20 mark. That's awesome. Congratulations.
21
                And does she -- what is her
22
    name?
23
                             My wife's name is
                MR. BURNET:
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```
Page 10
 1
    Bernice.
 2
               MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. Bernice
 3
    Burnet?
               MR. BURNET: Bernice Burnet.
 4
 5
               MS. HUNTLEY: And do you-all
 6
    have any children between the two of you?
7
               MR. BURNET: We don't have any
    children.
 8
9
               MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And do you
10
    have any children?
11
               MR. BURNET: I have a daughter.
12
               MS. HUNTLEY: And does she live
13
    in Huntsville?
               MR. BURNET: She's not in
14
15
    Huntsville. She lives in Morgan County
   near Decatur. Trinity is where she lives
16
17
    at.
18
               MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And what is
    her name?
19
20
               MR. BURNET: Her name is
21
    Latonya.
22
               MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. Is it
23
    Latonya Burnet?
```

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	Page 11
1	MR. BURNET: No. She's I'm
2	sorry you asked that.
3	MS. HUNTLEY: That's okay.
4	MR. BURNET: She's been married
5	she's been married for some time. Gosh,
6	I can't even think of my daughter's
7	husband's name.
8	MS. HUNTLEY: That's fine. It
9	will come to you later, and you can tell
10	me. That will be fine. Or you can shoot
11	it to me by email.
12	And where do you live, Mr.
13	Burnet? What is your address?
14	MR. BURNET: I live at
15	·
16	MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. Great. And
17	what was the last part?
18	MR. BURNET:
19	That's .
20	MS. HUNTLEY: Great. And do you
21	have any other family members there in
22	Huntsville in Madison County other than
23	you, your wife, your daughter that lives

```
Page 12
1
    over near Decatur?
2
                MR. BURNET: You are going to
3
     have to repeat that.
 4
                MS. HUNTLEY: I said, Do you
5
     have any other family members that live in
     the Huntsville area?
6
                MR. BURNET: I have a lot of
7
8
     family. I'm originally from Huntsville.
9
     So my entire family is basically here.
10
                MS. HUNTLEY: Got you. That
11
    makes sense.
12
                Do you have any family members
    that work in law enforcement or Huntsville
13
     PD or Madison City or the sheriff's office?
14
15
                MR. BURNET: Not to my
16
    knowledge.
17
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And what
18
     about your education and training
    Mr. Burnet?
19
20
                MR. BURNET: Any what now?
                MS. HUNTLEY: Your education.
21
22
    What high school did you graduate from in
23
    Huntsville?
```

		Page 13
1	MR. BURNET: Yeah. Well, I'm a	
2	I went to county schools here in Madison	
3	County and Great Tech. And I graduated	
4	from Great Tech in I can't remember what	
5	year. I think it was it was probably	
6	about '80, somewhere about.	
7	MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. Well,	
8	great. So and I have to ask you this	
9	just because we have to know. Do you have	
10	a criminal record? Have you ever been	
11	arrested?	
12	MR. BURNET: Have I ever been	
13	arrested?	
14	MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir.	
15	MR. BURNET: You mean in my	
16	lifetime?	
17	MS. HUNTLEY: In your lifetime.	
18	MR. BURNET: I'm sure I have.	
19	MS. HUNTLEY: Fair enough. And	
20	what about church, community, civic	
21	organizations? I know we will get into the	
22	NAACP. But do you belong to a local church	
23	in Huntsville?	

Page 14 1 MR. BURNET: I'm a member of St. Bartlett Primitive Baptist Church. 2 3 MS. HUNTLEY: What was that church again? 4 5 MR. BURNET: St. Bartlett. 6 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And are you 7 currently employed? 8 MR. BURNET: No, I'm not. 9 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. Are you 10 retired? 11 MR. BURNET: Yes. I retired in 12 '09. 13 MS. HUNTLEY: And what did you 14 do? What did you retire from? 15 MR. BURNET: I used to be a part of -- used to make rocket motors. I 16 17 retired from Thiokol. 18 MS. HUNTLEY: From what -- what 19 is the name of the company? 20 MR. BURNET: T-h-i-o-k-o-l, 21 Thiokol. 22 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And you used to make rocket motors? 23

```
Page 15
1
                MR. BURNET: Made -- made rocket
2
     motors.
3
                MS. HUNTLEY: That's --
                MR. BURNET: We didn't make that
 4
5
     one that blew up either.
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. Well, let's
 6
7
     get that on the record.
8
                MS. GUERRIERI: That needs to be
9
     on the record.
10
                MS. HUNTLEY: Well, that's a
11
     pretty interesting job to have. That
12
     was -- that must have been a lot of fun.
13
                So have you ever been involved
14
     in any lawsuits with the City or with the
15
     police department or anything?
                MR. BURNET: No, I haven't.
16
17
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. All right.
18
     Well, those were just a couple of little
19
     background things we know. And then we
20
     will get to the heart of the -- and we
21
     asked to speak to you mainly connected to
22
     your position with the NAACP.
23
                So can you tell me about your
```

Page 16 1 history with the NAACP and what role you 2 had with them this past summer? 3 MR. BURNET: Oh, I have been -my history with the NAACP goes back 4 5 20 years -- a little bit beyond 20 years. And, you know, I've served in a number of 6 7 different capacities, you know, on the --8 both on the state and the local level. 9 And last summer I was the 10 president of the local branch here in 11 Madison County. 12 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And how 13 long had you had that title as president of 14 the Madison County branch last summer? 15 MR. BURNET: Well, every two 16 years -- we have an election every two 17 years. So at the time the rally was 18 taking place, I was probably president for 19 about -- probably a year into my term. 20 MS. HUNTLEY: And are you still 21 president now? Are you completing that 22 two-year term? 23 MR. BURNET: No. T haven't been

Page 17 1 president since the first of the year. 2 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. So your 3 term ended in December? MR. BURNET: Ended December 31. 4 5 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And who is the president now of the local chapter? 6 7 MR. BURNET: Yolanda. Her name is Yolanda Caudle. 8 9 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And was she 10 an officer at the time in June during the time of the protest? 11 12 MR. BURNET: I think she was the 13 political -- wait. Wait. Yeah, she was an 14 officer. Well, she was a committee 15 chairperson. 16 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. 17 MR. BURNET: Membership. She 18 was the membership chairperson. 19 MS. HUNTLEY: And was she 20 involved with the -- the June 3rd protest? MR. BURNET: I don't remember 21 22 seeing her at the -- I don't -- I'm not 23 sure if she was there at that rally.

Page 18 1 MS. HUNTLEY: And who was your 2 vice president in June? 3 MR. BURNET: That was -- at the time it was Mary -- Mary Jones-Moore was 4 5 the vice president. 6 MS. HUNTLEY: And was she 7 involved with the protest? 8 MR. BURNET: She -- wait, now. You are getting the protest involved with 9 10 the rally. We didn't have nothing to do with the protest. 11 12 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. Well, I 13 will characterize it as a rally. 14 MR. BURNET: Yes. 15 MS. HUNTLEY: That's fine. Т 16 apologize for that. So the rally, was she 17 involved with the rally? 18 MR. BURNET: She was at the 19 rally. 20 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. All right. 21 And so that -- I'm just going to get 22 straight to it. But before I get to the 23 June 3rd protest, let me ask you, there was

Page 19 1 also a protest on June the 1st. Were you involved in any capacity with that protest? 2 3 MR. BURNET: We didn't have 4 anything to do with the one on the 1st. 5 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And did you 6 know anybody that was involved with the 7 rally on the 1st? 8 MR. BURNET: Not to knowledge. 9 I don't know of anyone who was in that --10 who participated in that rally. 11 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. So we will 12 get right to, you know, why we have you 13 here, which is discussing the June 3rd 14 rally that you signed off on the permit 15 for. 16 So how did that come about? 17 Just tell me in your own words, as if we 18 are sitting down over a cup of coffee, what 19 happened. 20 Well, what MR. BURNET: 21 happened, we get -- you know, the NAACP 22 gets a number of calls. I quess most 23 people think that we are like Matt Dillon,

		Page	20
1	but we don't normally get involved in other		
2	people's affairs unless we are someone		
3	files a complaint. Then we get involved in		
4	in it.		
5	But what was happening, a number		
6	of calls were coming into the office		
7	wanting to know what is the NAACP going to		
8	do? What is the you know, we are		
9	limited as to what we can do.		
10	So just to satisfy the group, we		
11	can have a rally and we can talk about the		
12	issues. So that's how we determined that		
13	we would do the rally. So we would bring		
14	the community together and we would talk		
15	about discussing talk about how how		
16	should you handle situations like this.		
17	MS. HUNTLEY: And do you		
18	remember what time frame that was when that		
19	discussion started on the NAACP having a		
20	rally?		
21	MR. BURNET: You mean what time		
22	the rally started.		
23	MS. HUNTLEY: No, sir.		

Page 21 1 MR. BURNET: I mean, the --2 MS. HUNTLEY: So June 3rd was 3 the date of the rally. But you would have had to start discussing this in advance of 4 5 June 3rd, before you even applied for the permit. 6 7 So do you know when you-all as 8 an organization decided we are going to 9 proceed and go get a permit to have this 10 rally? 11 MR. BURNET: No, I don't know 12 for sure. I am sure it was within that week. 13 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. Was it --14 15 did y'all make the decision before or after 16 the June 1st protest? 17 MR. BURNET: We already had made 18 a -- we made a decision to do it, but I had 19 not applied for the permit. MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. So the 20 decision was made before they did what they 21 22 did on June 1st; right? 23 MR. BURNET: Yes.

Page 22 1 MS. HUNTLEY: Would you say it 2 was a few days before that? A week before 3 that? Well, it probably 4 MR. BURNET: 5 would have been on that Wednesday before that. 6 7 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. MR. BURNET: 8 Probably. Because 9 that's when we normally have our conference 10 call. 11 MS. HUNTLEY: And so you would 12 have made the decision and discussed doing this on your Wednesday conference call? 13 14 MR. BURNET: Uh-huh 15 (affirmative). And then we probably had 16 already applied for the permit because on 17 the day that we had the protest in the 18 park, when I went to pick up the protest --19 the permit, they had declined on us doing 20 the march. We were supposed to do the 21 protest in the park and then do a march 22 following that. 23 But they declined on giving us

		Page 23
1	the protest I mean, the permit to do the	
2	march. So we said, Well, we will do the	
3	rally in the park and then we will go home.	
4	MS. HUNTLEY: So who decided	
5	now, I know you said it was declined. But	
6	who decided that what you-all wanted to do	
7	was both a rally and a march?	
8	MR. BURNET: Uh-huh	
9	(affirmative).	
10	MS. HUNTLEY: Who decided that?	
11	Was it the committee that met?	
12	MR. BURNET: Yeah. That was	
13	the yeah. That was done through the	
14	with officers of the state conference and	
15	the our college chapter. We have a	
16	college chapter here at UAH.	
17	MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. So so	
18	who all was involved in this decision were	
19	your your people that would be on your	
20	call, your Wednesday call; correct?	
21	MR. BURNET: Yes. It would have	
22	been a statewide discussion. And I'm	
23	sure there were you know, the North	
1		

```
Page 24
1
     Alabama -- Doug Francis would have been the
     ones making the decision because we all
2
3
     came together to do it.
 4
                MS. HUNTLEY: And what role did
5
     the -- you said it was UAH chapter of
     students that are involved?
6
7
                MR. BURNET: Yes. We have a
8
     college -- we have a college chapter. It's
9
     UAH and A&M. But the president is at
10
     UAH -- and his name is Joshua Thompson --
11
     at that time.
12
                MS. HUNTLEY: And so George
13
     Thompson [sic] was also involved in helping
14
     organize as president --
15
                MR. BURNET: Yes, he would have
16
    been --
17
               MS. HUNTLEY: -- of the chapter
18
     at UAH?
19
                MR. BURNET: He was involved in
20
     the decision-making. And matter of fact,
21
     he was one of the speakers.
22
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. At the
23
     thing. And who else did you-all have as
```

```
Page 25
1
     speakers at the rally in addition to George
2
     Thompson? Do you remember?
 3
                MR. BURNET: Well, I'm sure
     we had Reverend Turnbull from Lawrence
 4
5
     County. And I want to think we had
 6
     Limestone County -- the president there,
7
     which is Wilbert Woodruff. They were here.
 8
     And I can't remember who else was on the --
9
     the agenda to speak.
10
                MS. HUNTLEY: Did you speak?
11
                MR. BURNET:
                             I did.
12
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And so you
13
     have this Wednesday meeting. You decide
14
     y'all are going to apply for a permit. And
15
     then who takes the action to go and apply
16
     for the permit? Was it you?
17
                MR. BURNET: I'm the one who
18
     applied for the permit, yes.
                MS. HUNTLEY: So can you tell me
19
20
     what process you went through to go apply?
21
     Where did you go? Who did you talk to?
22
                MR. BURNET: Where do I go to
23
     apply for the permit?
```

Page 26 1 MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. 2 MR. BURNET: To the City of 3 Huntsville where they get permits at. It's over off of -- I'm not sure what street it 4 5 I'm not. But it's right there in is. Huntsville. 6 7 MS. HUNTLEY: That's fine. Yes, 8 sir. And is it an office you go to where 9 there is just somebody where you ask for 10 the form? How does that work? 11 MR. BURNET: Yes. You go to 12 the -- I didn't pull his name up, because I 13 didn't have no idea that you would ask me, 14 but I have his card. It was Captain -- I can't think of his name. 15 16 MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. Well, 17 we can get that from you later. 18 So you have his card. And you 19 went to him to get the application? 20 MR. BURNET: Yes. He's over the 21 permits for the -- what do you call it --22 parade permits and stuff like that. 23 MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. So when

```
Page 27
 1
     you went to him to get the application, did
     you tell him what you were getting an
 2
 3
     application for?
 4
                MR. BURNET: I did.
 5
                MS. HUNTLEY: What was your
 6
     discussion? What did --
 7
                MR. BURNET: It was to get a
 8
     permit to do a rally in the park and a
 9
     march to follow.
                MS. HUNTLEY: Did you tell him
10
     where you wanted to do the march?
11
12
                MR. BURNET: Yes, I did.
                MS. HUNTLEY: Where did you tell
13
14
     him?
15
                MR. BURNET: I told him we
16
     wanted to do it around the Madison County
17
     Courthouse.
18
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay.
19
                MR. BURNET: And to do the rally
20
     in Big Spring Park.
21
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And did he
22
     respond to you to say, yes, that will be
23
     fine or --
```

```
Page 28
1
                MR. BURNET: Well, not at that
2
     time.
3
                MS. HUNTLEY:
                              Okay.
 4
                MR. BURNET:
                             What they say is
5
     they -- you can go ahead and put it in.
     And then later they will call you back and
 6
7
     let you know whether it was approved or
8
     not.
9
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And did --
10
                MR. BURNET: So when he called
11
     me back, he let me know that it -- they had
12
     discussed it. And because of some activity
13
     that had taken place that night before,
14
     they thought it would in the best interest
15
     for the community to not do a march because
16
     of some incident that happened before.
17
                And I said, Well, look, then we
18
     will just do our rally in the park.
19
                MS. HUNTLEY: So when they were
     referring to the incident, were they
20
21
     talking about the June 1st?
22
                MR. BURNET: I don't have my
23
     dates in front of me, but it was -- yes,
```

```
Page 29
1
     I'm assuming it was that because somebody
2
     had --
3
                MS. HUNTLEY: So -- so you got
     the event happened on June 1st. That
 4
5
     rally/protest, however you want to
     characterize it. So the next day, on June
 6
7
     2nd, which is the date you signed the
8
     permit; right?
                MR. BURNET: Uh-huh
9
10
     (affirmative) Okay.
11
                MS. HUNTLEY: So you received a
12
     call from them saying they only approved
13
     the rally and not the march?
14
                MR. BURNET: Yes.
15
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay.
                                     Do you
16
     remember what day you went down there?
17
                So did you go down there, like,
18
     the Thursday or Friday right after y'all
19
     had that meeting on Wednesday; or did you
20
     go down there the actual week of --
21
                MR. BURNET: I have no idea. I
22
    don't remember what day I went down there
23
     to apply for that permit.
```

```
Page 30
 1
                MS. HUNTLEY: But there should
 2
     be an application on file that you turned
 3
     in, I'm sure.
                MR. BURNET: Uh-huh
 4
 5
     (affirmative). I probably have the
     application right around here someplace
 6
 7
     but --
 8
                MS. HUNTLEY: So you have a copy
 9
     of the actual application?
10
                MR. BURNET: I probably -- they
11
     gave me a copy. So --
12
                MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir.
                MR. BURNET: -- If I didn't
13
14
     destroy it, I may be able to find it.
15
                MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. Okay.
16
     That's great.
17
                So other than this captain, who
18
     else did you talk to when you went to
19
     apply?
20
                MR. BURNET: Well, it might have
21
     been a total of three people. One of them
22
     might have been a sergeant.
23
                MS. HUNTLEY: One of them was
```

```
Page 31
 1
    who?
 2
                MR. BURNET: Huh?
 3
                MS. HUNTLEY: Who was it? What
    was the name again?
 4
 5
                MR. BURNET: I said, One of them
    may have been a sergeant. I'm thinking
 6
7
     that that was -- that was a sergeant. And
 8
     then there was a captain and one other
 9
    person. It was a total of three people
10
     that I talked to.
11
                MS. HUNTLEY: And that was all
12
     at the same time together or at three
    different times?
13
14
                MR. BURNET: No, that was all at
15
    the same time.
16
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. So when you
    went in to apply, you sat down and kind of
17
18
    had a discussion with these three
    individuals?
19
20
                MR. BURNET: Yes.
21
                MS. HUNTLEY: Were they all
22
    males?
23
                MR. BURNET: I should hope so.
```

Page 32 1 MS. HUNTLEY: Well, you know, 2 there are female sergeants out there too. 3 MR. BURNET: Yeah, they were all male. 4 5 MS. HUNTLEY: So they --MR. BURNET: They were dressed 6 7 like males. 8 MS. HUNTLEY: And were they all 9 white males? 10 MR. BURNET: Yes. 11 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And so you 12 do remember the captain -- or at least you have the captain's card. Do you recall the 13 names of the other two? 14 15 MR. BURNET: No, I don't. But I'm sure I could -- I'm sure I've got a 16 17 card from them also because that's what I 18 do. 19 MS. HUNTLEY: Well, I will 20 follow up --21 MR. BURNET: If I'm sitting and talking, I will pick up one of their cards. 22 23 MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. Well, I

```
Page 33
1
    will follow up with you later on to see if
2
    we can --
3
                MR. BURNET: Yeah. And I just
     remembered my son-in-law is Dennis.
 4
                                          My
5
     daughter's -- you asked me what was her
6
    name?
7
               MS. HUNTLEY: What's the last
8
    name?
9
               MR. BURNET: Her last name is
10
    Dennis.
11
               MS. HUNTLEY: Dennis. So, okay.
12
    We've got that now, Latonya Dennis.
13
                MR. BURNET: Yeah.
14
                MS. HUNTLEY: All right. Got
    it. Got it. Got it. I knew it would come
15
16
    to you. It happens to me all the time.
17
                MR. BURNET: Yeah, well, you
18
    wait until you get to 72.
19
                MS. HUNTLEY: 72 is young. What
20
    are you talking about? It better be.
21
                So you met with them, made your
22
    application. And then on the day before
23
    your rally, they let you know that they'd
```

Page 34 1 approved the rally but had -- did not 2 approve the march that you requested. 3 MR. BURNET: That's correct. MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And how did 4 5 they notify you about this decision? 6 Well, they -- he MR. BURNET: 7 called me on the phone. We talked on the 8 phone about that --9 MS. HUNTLEY: And was that the 10 captain? 11 MR. BURNET: -- because whatever 12 happened, I would have had to go -- go over 13 there and pick up a copy of it. And so 14 they let me know ahead of time that they 15 didn't think it was a good idea to -- to do 16 a march because of the incident that had 17 taken place the day before -- or the night 18 before. 19 MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. And was 20 it the captain that you had met with 21 before, the one that called you to let you 22 know what the decision was about the permit? 23

Page 35 1 MR. BURNET: Well, it was. 2 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. So now as 3 of June 2nd, you understood that it was -at least what was approved by the permit 4 5 was just the rally? 6 MR. BURNET: Uh-huh 7 (affirmative). True. 8 MS. HUNTLEY: What was your 9 understanding about the time? 10 MR. BURNET: My understanding 11 was that we would do a rally in the park, 12 and we would disperse and go home. 13 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. But what 14 time did you understand that to be? MR. BURNET: What time did --15 16 MS. HUNTLEY: What time did you 17 understand the rally to end based on your 18 permit? 19 MR. BURNET: Oh, it was -- it 20 was listed on the permit. I don't know 21 what time it was. Something, like, maybe 22 five o'clock to seven o'clock. I don't 23 know for sure.

		Page	36
1	MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. So if I		
2	told you it was supposed to 6:30 on the		
3	permit or at least that would would that		
4	be correct?		
5	MR. BURNET: That would be it		
6	would be on the permit what time		
7	whatever time it was, it's on the permit.		
8	MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir.		
9	MR. BURNET: But I don't		
10	remember what time it was. My memory is		
11	not that well.		
12	MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. That's		
13	fine. That's fine. You are doing great.		
14	We are having fun.		
15	So tell me a little bit about		
16	how the NAACP communicates with people		
17	about their events, you know		
18	MR. BURNET: How we communicate?		
19	MS. HUNTLEY: How do you		
20	communicate? How do you let the public		
21	know, your members know when you are having		
22	an event like this?		
23	MR. BURNET: Oh, we use social		

```
Page 37
1
     media sometimes and then we -- just word of
2
     mouth.
 3
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And so
     before -- had you let the public know about
 4
5
     the rally before you heard back from the
     captain?
 6
7
                MR. BURNET: No, I didn't let
8
     them know. I didn't. I don't know who it
9
     would have been to let them know -- let
10
     them know that, because it was a
11
     last-minute -- it was a last-minute thing
12
     that there would be no march. That was at
13
    the last minute.
14
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. So --
                MR. BURNET: So I don't know if
15
16
     the public got that word ahead of time or
17
     it was -- but they only found out when we
18
     were doing the protest in the park that
19
     there would not be a march.
20
                MS. HUNTLEY: So when did
21
     you-all let everybody know -- let's --
22
     let's back up from when you found they
23
     weren't going to allow the march.
```

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		Page 38
1	But when you-all decided that	
2	you were going to do the rally that what	
3	you wanted to do was both the rally and the	
4	march, did y'all let people know that you	
5	were planning a rally and march?	
6	MR. BURNET: Well, somebody may	
7	have. Because I was not the only one	
8	passing the word. I'm the one who pulled	
9	the permit.	
10	Now, it was up to a number of	
11	people that was I'm sure that the UAH	
12	it was the UAH who was doing the social	
13	media.	
14	MS. HUNTLEY: So it was the UAH	
15	that was handling the Facebook page and	
16	getting the	
17	MR. BURNET: Yeah, they did a	
18	lot of you know, they each each	
19	one that was participating was doing	
20	probably doing their own advertising.	
21	MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And when	
22	you say "each one participating," you mean	
23	each one that was speaking at the rally?	

```
Page 39
1
                MR. BURNET: Each -- each person
2
     that was a speaker on the panel, I'm sure
3
     they were passing -- passing word along
 4
     too.
5
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And when
     you got the -- and did you handle any of
 6
     the social media yourself? Did you put any
7
8
     information on the Facebook page or
9
     Instagram or Twitter?
10
                MR. BURNET:
                             No.
11
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. So who
12
     handles that for the NAACP, your chapter?
13
                MR. BURNET: Oh, that would have
14
    been -- for handling that, it would have
15
    been Patrick Grayson.
                MS. HUNTLEY: What is her name?
16
17
                MR. BURNET: Patrick.
18
                MS. HUNTLEY: Oh, Patrick.
19
     Okay. What is his last name?
20
                MR. BURNET: Huh?
                MS. HUNTLEY: What's his last
21
22
    name?
23
                             Oh, Patrick
                MR. BURNET:
```

Page 40 1 Grayson. 2 MS. HUNTLEY: Patrick Grayson? 3 MR. BURNET: Uh-huh (affirmative). 4 5 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. Yes, sir. And so he would have been the one handling 6 7 what the NAACP was putting out on its own 8 social media; right? 9 MR. BURNET: Yes. 10 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And were 11 you giving Patrick any information to put 12 on social media? 13 MR. BURNET: Yes. About the 14 rally, yes. But the problem we ran into was that we -- it was a rush deal. You 15 16 know, we -- because ordinarily it takes, 17 like, a week or ten days to get a permit. 18 So since we were trying to do it 19 in a -- in a rush, the City just allowed us 20 to go -- they granted us permission to go ahead and -- they waived us that extra time 21 22 what normally they would have taken --23 MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir.

Page 41 1 MR. BURNET: -- before they 2 issued the permit. 3 MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. Now, 4 what was your reaction to the approval of a 5 rally but not allowing the march? 6 MR. BURNET: What was my 7 reaction to doing a rally and not a march? 8 MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. 9 MR. BURNET: Well, considering 10 what had already happened, you know, I didn't have any objections to it, you know, 11 12 because -- you know, because I was thankful 13 that they allowed us to do the rally in the 14 park, which was -- like I said, they could 15 have said, Well, you are going to have to 16 wait for ten days before we can approve 17 your permit. 18 MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. And, 19 you know, Mr. Burnet, can you tell me why 20 for you it was important for you-all to do that rally? 21 22 To try to educate MR. BURNET: 23 the public on how to handle -- or how to

Page 42

get ahead of a situation like that. 1 2 MS. HUNTLEY: A situation like 3 which one? Are you talking about George Floyd? 4 5 MR. BURNET: We are talking about George Floyd. You know, because a 6 7 lot of people have problems with police and 8 how they act and the policies that's on the 9 books. 10 And what we try to do is to educate the public on how to take a 11 12 proactive approach. You know, if you are 13 upset with the way the law is on the books, then we use that moment to encourage people 14 15 to register and to vote and to put people 16 in office who will change the policies. 17 You can do more by changing policies in the 18 office than you can out in the public, you 19 know. 20 MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. So what 21 you are saying -- and I'm just summarizing 22 -- is it was important for you to start to educate people about this issue? 23

Page 43 1 MR. BURNET: That is correct. 2 MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. And why 3 do you-all want to do a rally so soon? 4 Like, you met on that Wednesday. You were 5 wanting to do one the next week. MR. BURNET: Well, we thought it 6 7 was important to try to do it as soon as 8 possible because you could settle the 9 crowd. You know, if you can make them 10 understand that we don't take care of 11 policies in the street. We take care of 12 policies at the State -- from the State 13 level down, the ones that they want to 14 change, you know. If you are upset with 15 police brutality or you think that you are 16 being treated unfair, then you work it out 17 in the offices, you know, and you come up 18 with a policy that you are pleased with. 19 And then you hold those officials 20 accountable to the policies that's on the 21 books. MS. HUNTLEY: So then is it fair 22 23 to say that the purpose of the rally was to

Page 44 1 try to reach out to those people that were upset about the George Floyd incident and 2 3 educate them on the ways in which they can make a change? 4 5 MR. BURNET: That is correct. 6 MS. HUNTLEY: Were you concerned 7 that people were going to take to the 8 streets and do something if you-all didn't 9 organize and get a rally soon? 10 MR. BURNET: Well -- well, yes, 11 I was concerned about that. 12 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. So did you 13 communicate to Patrick Grayson, the one 14 that handled your social media, did you 15 tell him immediately that the time had 16 changed? 17 MR. BURNET: I don't remember 18 doing that. 19 MS. HUNTLEY: Who did you 20 tell -- and first of all, let me -- I'm 21 sorry. I hate to interrupt you. But let 22 me back up. This is important. 23 What time of the day on that

```
Page 45
1
     Wednesday were you notified by the captain
     that it would be a rally only and not the
2
3
     march?
                MR. BURNET: It was just before
 4
     I went to pick it up. I guess -- I don't
5
     remember what time I picked it up. But I
6
     was -- I was notified on the day that I
7
8
     was supposed to pick it up that it wouldn't
9
    be -- they didn't grant the permit to do
10
    the march.
11
                MS. HUNTLEY: Did you recall if
12
     it was after lunch, before lunch, close to
    close of business?
13
14
                MR. BURNET: It was probably
    before lunch.
15
16
                MS. HUNTLEY: So it was a
17
    morning?
18
                MR. BURNET: It was probably.
                                              I
    don't know for sure. But it was probably
19
20
    before lunch.
21
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay.
22
                MR. BURNET: But like I said, I
23
     don't remember.
```

```
Page 46
1
                MS. HUNTLEY: And so after you
2
     found this out, you notified Patrick
3
     Grayson, your social media guy for your
     chapter?
 4
5
                MR. BURNET: No, I didn't notify
6
     him immediately, no.
7
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. Do you
8
     recall when you spoke to him?
9
                MR. BURNET: I'm not sure if I
10
    did at all.
11
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And what
12
     about any of these other speakers, like
13
     George Thompson and Reverend Turnbull, any
     of those people? Did you let them know
14
15
    that it would be --
                MR. BURNET: I don't know --
16
17
    what I did was told the state president.
18
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And who is
19
    the state president?
20
                MR. BURNET: That's Bernard
21
    Simelton.
               MS. HUNTLEY: Bernard who?
22
23
                MR. BURNET: S-i-m-e-l-t-o-n.
```

Page 47 1 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. So you notified Bernard and let him know that it 2 3 was rally only, no march? MR. BURNET: 4 Yes. 5 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And do you know what he did, if anything? 6 7 MR. BURNET: I have no idea what he did. 8 9 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. Do you know 10 if he reached out to law enforcement to question with them why they changed it or 11 12 why they wouldn't allow both -- they 13 wouldn't honor both requests? MR. BURNET: No, he didn't reach 14 15 out to them to find out why -- because he 16 already told me. He told me that because 17 of the incident that happened the night 18 before. 19 MS. HUNTLEY: So to be clear, 20 when you applied for the permit asking for 21 both the rally and the march, nobody told 22 you at that time that it was granted? 23 MR. BURNET: No, not at the time

Page 48 1 that we applied. No. 2 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And when 3 you were notified that they had reviewed it and made a decision, you were told that 4 5 they made a decision for a rally only -- to grant the permit for the rally only and not 6 7 for the march? 8 MR. BURNET: True. 9 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. Did you 10 have any other conversation with anybody 11 else in law enforcement who had anything to 12 do with the permit in between the time that 13 you went and met with the captain to apply for the permit and when you went and picked 14 15 it up? 16 MR. BURNET: No. 17 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. So when you 18 went and met with the three gentlemen and applied for the permit, when you walked out 19 20 of there, did you have any reason to 21 believe that they were going to grant both 22 the rally and the march? 23 MR. BURNET: Well, yes, I

```
Page 49
 1
     thought they would.
 2
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. Why did you
 3
     think that?
                MR. BURNET: Because I had
 4
 5
     applied for it.
 6
                MS. HUNTLEY: That's fair
 7
     enough. You asked for it. You should get
 8
     it. Right?
 9
                Did they give you any indication
10
     in that meeting that they -- that they
11
     thought it would be approved and it would
12
     be no problem?
13
                MR. BURNET: No. They didn't
14
     say one way or the other.
15
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. So they
16
     just accepted it, but you walked out of
17
     there thinking it would -- it would get
18
     approved?
19
                MR. BURNET: Yes.
20
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And that
21
     was based on your opinion of it?
22
                MR. BURNET: Uh-huh
     (affirmative).
23
```

		Page 50
1	MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. Did you	
2	share with the other NAACP people or at	
3	least with Bernard that you thought it was	
4	going to be approved?	
5	MR. BURNET: Did I share with	
6	him that I thought it would be approved?	
7	Yes, I I probably did. I don't know. I	
8	don't remember whether I shared with him	
9	that I thought it would be approved.	
10	Because ordinarily we apply for them, and	
11	they are approved.	
12	MS. HUNTLEY: And let me ask	
13	you about that for a second, and we will	
14	step we will come back here.	
15	Have you ever applied for a	
16	march before?	
17	MR. BURNET: No.	
18	MS. HUNTLEY: Have you applied	
19	for a rally before?	
20	MR. BURNET: Well, yes.	
21	MS. HUNTLEY: And was it	
22	approved?	
23	MR. BURNET: Yes.	

Page 51 1 MS. HUNTLEY: Were there any incidents at any of those rallies? 2 3 MR. BURNET: No. MS. HUNTLEY: How many do you 4 5 recall? And if you don't know, that's fair. But was it more than one? More than 6 7 two? 8 MR. BURNET: Well, it was 9 probably -- oh, yeah, it's been more than 10 two. 11 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. Where were 12 those marches located? 13 MR. BURNET: You are saying 14 marches. Are we talking about marches and 15 rallies or just -- no, I haven't applied 16 for a permit to do a march. 17 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. So that was 18 your first time asking for a march? 19 MR. BURNET: Yes. 20 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. But the rallies that you had asked for before and 21 22 that had been approved, where were those 23 held?

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Page 52 1 MR. BURNET: You mean at the --2 at the local -- in the area here? 3 MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. MR. BURNET: We've done them at 4 5 the -- like, "Get out to vote" rallies. We do them continuously. 6 7 MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. Where 8 do you host those at? Where do you hold 9 them? 10 MR. BURNET: Well, at Cavalry 11 Center. I've done them at the North 12 Parkway park up there on North Parkway. It's a city park. 13 14 MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. 15 MR. BURNET: And where else have 16 I done them? Around the courthouse. 17 MS. HUNTLEY: Where around the 18 courthouse? 19 MR. BURNET: Madison County on 20 the Square. 21 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. 22 MR. BURNET: Because you didn't 23 really have to have a permit to do -- to do

```
Page 53
     the "Get out to vote" rallies. You know,
1
2
     we -- sometimes most of the places that
3
     we'd target, you don't have to get a permit
     to do it.
 4
5
                MS. HUNTLEY: So why don't you
6
     have to have a permit?
7
                MR. BURNET: Why we wouldn't
8
     have to have one?
9
                MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir.
10
                MR. BURNET: Well, the main
11
     reason why we have -- why we get them
12
     sometimes would be because we try to
     reserve a spot.
13
14
                MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. So the
15
     area around the courthouse, you are saying
16
     you really don't have to have a permit?
17
                MR. BURNET: I'm thinking that
18
     if you stand on the -- on the -- on the
19
     walking space there --
20
                MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir.
21
                MR. BURNET: -- you don't have to
22
    have a permit.
23
                MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. Had
```

```
Page 54
 1
     you-all ever had a rally at Big Spring
 2
     Park?
 3
                MR. BURNET: I can't remember
 4
    having one there.
 5
                MS. HUNTLEY: So that was a
 6
     first time for you from what you --
                MR. BURNET: Oh, no, no. I did
 7
 8
     do -- I did a candlelight vigil in Big
 9
    Spring Park.
10
                MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. So for
     a candlelight, that's usually at nightfall.
11
12
    Was that at night?
13
                MR. BURNET: It was in the
14
    evening, yes.
15
                MS. HUNTLEY: And what time of
16
    the year was that? Do you remember?
17
                MR. BURNET: Yeah. It was -- it
18
    was in the summertime.
19
                MS. HUNTLEY: And what was the
20
    candlelight vigil for?
21
                MR. BURNET: It was to -- the
22
     50-year Voting Rights Act.
23
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay.
```

Page 55 1 MR. BURNET: It was in recognition of the 50-year Voting Rights 2 3 Act. MS. HUNTLEY: Well, I bet that 4 5 was nice. 6 MR. BURNET: We didn't have 7 anybody -- we didn't have anybody starting 8 a fight and stuff. You know, it was -- it 9 was peaceful. Put it that way. 10 MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. Yes, sir. So -- so you-all held that at Big 11 12 Spring Park? 13 MR. BURNET: Uh-huh 14 (affirmative). 15 MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. How did 16 it work when it was over? I'm talking 17 about the candlelight vigil now. Did you 18 have a lot of people turn out? 19 MR. BURNET: It was not as many 20 as I would have liked to have come out, but 21 it was very well attended. 22 MS. HUNTLEY: And so when it was 23 over, what did you guys -- how did people

```
Page 56
1
     leave?
2
                MR. BURNET: How did they leave?
3
                MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. Did
 4
     they hang around for a while, or did they
5
     just leave or --
                MR. BURNET: Oh, well, I
 6
7
     don't -- I'm -- I don't -- I really don't
8
     know. Because once I packed my -- take
9
     down my gear, I'm gone.
10
                MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir.
11
                MR. BURNET: And there were
12
    people there when I left, yes.
                MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. Just
13
14
     kind hanging out and --
15
                MR. BURNET: Yes. Because, you
16
     know, I take down the sound equipment and
17
     stuff, and, you know, get on out of the
18
     area.
19
                MS. HUNTLEY: So when you've
20
     ended those rallies in the past, the ones
21
     you have done at the city park, at Big
22
     Spring, in front of the Center, how do you
23
     end them? Do you make an announcement
```

Page 57 1 saying it's over, or do you just -- the last person speaks, and y'all just pack up 2 3 and go? Is there a way in which y'all end it to let the people attending know it's 4 5 over? MR. BURNET: Usually, we thank 6 7 them. We leave -- we thank them for 8 showing up, and we go our ways. But we 9 might have a closing prayer. 10 MS. HUNTLEY: And so you will 11 thank them, close out with a prayer, and 12 then you just start taking things down; or 13 do you say -- you tell people it's time to 14 go, we've concluded the program? 15 No. Well, we knew MR. BURNET: 16 who -- let them know that the program is 17 over, and we thank them for being there. 18 We don't tell them to leave. 19 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. Okay. And 20 do people after your rallies generally hang around even after it's over once y'all have 21 22 taken the stage and equipment and all of 23 that down?

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Page 58
1
                MR. BURNET:
                             Well, there may be
2
     some still around, yes, because it's a
3
     public place.
 4
                MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. Okay.
5
     Well, thank you for that background and
 6
     history on the other events you have gotten
7
     permits for.
 8
                Now, when you went -- were you
9
     the person to get permits for those other
10
     rallies that we just talked about, the
     vigil and the --
11
12
                MR. BURNET: Yeah, I think I did
13
    pull that permit -- or got permission,
14
     yeah. But, yeah, I was behind that.
15
                MS. HUNTLEY: So did you get
16
    permission, or did you get a permit?
17
                MR. BURNET: I don't remember if
18
     I had permission or just a permit.
19
                MS. HUNTLEY:
                              Okay.
20
                MR. BURNET: I don't remember.
21
                MS. HUNTLEY: So do you have a
     relationship with the people over in law
22
23
     enforcement at Huntsville PD?
```

Page 59 1 MR. BURNET: I do. Well, not 2 a -- you know, we speak. We know each 3 other. MS. HUNTLEY: What about the 4 5 captain that you met with to get the permit for the June --6 7 MR. BURNET: He was new from the 8 -- you know, because I used to do 9 bikeathons. And I would get permits to do 10 the bikeathon. 11 But the one that was -- the one 12 that I talked with for the -- to get the 13 last permit was a -- he was a different 14 captain. Used to be Sergeant Shahan. But he -- the one that is there now has taken 15 16 Sergeant Shahan's place. 17 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. 18 MR. BURNET: So this was my 19 first time meeting him. 20 MS. HUNTLEY: And so when he --21 when they called you and said that permit 22 is granted to the rally only and not the 23 march because of the events that happened

Page 60 1 last night, did they talk to you about any concerns they -- specific concerns they had 2 3 about something happening at your rally or your march? 4 5 Well, if I recall, MR. BURNET: 6 he did say that he thought it was for the 7 best interest of the -- you know, for the 8 safety of the people, that he didn't think 9 it was a good idea that they -- that we do 10 a march. 11 MS. HUNTLEY: Did you ask him 12 why? 13 MR. BURNET: No, I didn't. 14 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. Did you 15 agree with that? Did you agree that there 16 was an issue of safety? 17 MR. BURNET: Well, no. To be 18 honest with you, I wasn't really marching 19 myself anyway. Because I'm -- at my -- I 20 wouldn't have participated even if they had 21 given it. So I didn't question him about 22 why you are not giving us permission to 23 march. Because like I said, I've got bad

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Page 61
1
     knees. I had no intentions of marching in
2
     the first place.
 3
                MS. HUNTLEY: Well, who was
     going to march? Who were the main people?
 4
5
                MR. BURNET:
                             It was -- it was
 6
     the younger people, and maybe some of the
7
     older people, too. But it never was my
8
     intention to do any marching.
9
                So, no, I didn't question him.
10
     When he said that the permit would not be
11
     granted, I just told him, Thank you for
12
     giving us permission to do the rally in the
13
     park.
14
                             Okay. And so was
                MS. HUNTLEY:
15
     it -- was it George Thompson, the president
16
     over at UAH, that student, was he sort of
17
     spearheading the march part of things?
18
     Like, who was kind of responsible for that?
19
                MR. BURNET: Who was responsible
20
     for what now?
21
                MS. HUNTLEY: Who was going to
22
     be responsible for that part of the event,
23
     the march, if it had been --
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```
Page 62
 1
                MR. BURNET: Well, that would
 2
     have been the state -- the state president,
 3
     the state -- the president.
                MS. HUNTLEY: The state
 4
 5
     president, Bernard --
                MR. BURNET: Bernard.
 6
 7
                MS. HUNTLEY: -- and his group
 8
     would have been responsible for the march?
 9
                MR. BURNET: Uh-huh
10
     (affirmative).
11
                MS. HUNTLEY: So when you called
12
     Bernard to let him know that it was -- you
     only got approved for the rally and not the
13
14
     march, how did he respond?
15
                MR. BURNET: I didn't call him.
     I told him when I saw him.
16
17
                MS. HUNTLEY: Oh, you saw him in
18
     person?
19
                MR. BURNET: Yes.
20
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And that
21
     was on the day before?
22
                MR. BURNET: That was the day --
23
     it was the day that I picked up the permit.
```

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Page 63
 1
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And you saw
 2
     him that same day?
 3
                MR. BURNET: When I saw him, I
     told him that we didn't get the permit to
 4
 5
    do the -- no, I didn't call him and tell
    him that.
 6
 7
               MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And what
    time did --
 8
 9
                MR. BURNET: Because I --
10
    because I knew I would see him that day.
11
    That's why I didn't call him.
12
                MS. HUNTLEY: And when did you
13
    see him that day? Do you remember?
14
                MR. BURNET: Huh?
15
               MS. HUNTLEY: Do you remember
16
    what time of day you saw him that day?
17
                MR. BURNET: No, I don't
18
    remember what time.
19
                MS. HUNTLEY: Was it at night or
20
    was it --
21
                MR. BURNET: No. It was in the
22
    evening.
23
                MS. HUNTLEY: It was in the
```

		Page 64
1	evening. Okay. And how did he react?	
2	MR. BURNET: Well, he didn't	
3	he didn't well, he felt like we should	
4	have been able. He just said, okay. But	
5	he thought that we would have been able to	
6	to take control of the crowd had we	
7	marched.	
8	MS. HUNTLEY: Had y'all ever had	
9	a situation where you had to take control	
10	of the crowd before?	
11	MR. BURNET: You are going to	
12	have to run that back by me.	
13	MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. Had	
14	y'all ever had a situation in the past	
15	where y'all had to take control of the	
16	crowd?	
17	MR. BURNET: No. We've never	
18	had a crowd that got out of control.	
19	MS. HUNTLEY: But Bernard felt	
20	like y'all could control the crowd if y'all	
21	had had	
22	MR. BURNET: Yes.	
23	MS. HUNTLEY: permission for	

Page 65 1 the march? 2 MR. BURNET: Yes. 3 MS. HUNTLEY: And you said that you don't think you ever told Patrick 4 5 Grayson who was handling y'all's social media that the march --6 7 MR. BURNET: No. It was -- it 8 was -- no, because I didn't have enough 9 time to tell him that. From the time I 10 picked up the permit up until us having the 11 rally, I didn't have time to tell him. You 12 know, if I had the foresight, I would have 13 called him immediately. 14 MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. 15 But, you know, MR. BURNET: 16 hindsight is always 20/20. 17 MS. HUNTLEY: Ain't that the 18 truth. 19 MR. BURNET: And I didn't know 20 that it was -- it's necessary to get the 21 word out to everybody that we are not going 22 to do a march because it was all did in one 23 day. You know, picking up the permit and

```
Page 66
 1
     going to do the permit was all in -- it was
 2
     a one-day deal.
 3
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. So I'm
     confused now. I thought the picking up the
 4
 5
     permit --
 6
                MR. BURNET: No, applying for
 7
     the permit --
 8
                MS. HUNTLEY: Was --
 9
                MR. BURNET: -- and picking it
10
     up is two different days.
11
                MS. HUNTLEY: Right. So but I
12
     thought you picked up --
13
                MR. BURNET: So when I went to
14
     pick up the permit --
15
                MS. HUNTLEY: Uh-huh.
16
                MR. BURNET: -- from picking up
     the permit and setting up to doing the
17
18
     rally, that was all in one day.
19
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. So I
20
     thought you got the permit on June the 2nd,
21
     or at least that's what the permit says.
22
                MR. BURNET:
                             Okay.
23
                MS. HUNTLEY: And then that
```

Page 67 1 would have meant the rally was the next 2 day, on June the 3rd. 3 Okay. Well --MR. BURNET: 4 MS. HUNTLEY: But you are saying 5 it was a tight time frame between --6 MR. BURNET: It was tight. Ιt 7 was a push, a rush, rush time frame. 8 MS. HUNTLEY: And you didn't 9 communicate with Patrick to let him know to 10 get the word out that there would be no 11 march? 12 MR. BURNET: No, because I don't 13 know what day I signed for it. I don't 14 know if I -- I don't know if I signed for 15 the permit the same day of the rally or if 16 it was the day before. I don't remember. 17 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. 18 MR. BURNET: Because whenever I 19 signed for it -- whatever day I picked it 20 up is when I signed for it. 21 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. So I have a 22 copy of the permit. 23 MR. BURNET: Okay.

		Page	68
1	MS. HUNTLEY: And and it		
2	shows where you signed for it on June		
3	the 2nd. So would that be right if that's		
4	what it says?		
5	MR. BURNET: If that's what it		
6	says, that's going to be right.		
7	MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. Which means		
8	you would have gotten it the day before the		
9	actual rally.		
10	MR. BURNET: Okay. So I would		
11	have had time to let them know that there		
12	would be no march.		
13	MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir.		
14	MR. BURNET: Well		
15	MS. HUNTLEY: And so are you		
16	saying but you didn't you let Bernard		
17	know that there would be no march?		
18	MR. BURNET: Yeah well, I		
19	yeah, I did. Whenever I when I talked		
20	with him, I let him know there would be no		
21	march.		
22	MS. HUNTLEY: And was that at		
23	the rally itself, or was it before the		

```
Page 69
1
     rally?
 2
                MR. BURNET: It was the day of
3
     the rally.
                MS. HUNTLEY: It was the day of.
 4
5
     So you didn't let Bernard or Patrick or --
     so when people showed up at the rally,
 6
     they -- they didn't know that there was
7
8
     going to be no march too?
9
                MR. BURNET: Apparently --
10
     apparently not.
11
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And so how
12
     did they react, if they were there thinking
     they were fixing to do a rally and weren't
13
14
     going to be able to do the march?
15
                MR. BURNET: Well, I assumed
16
     that they -- well, I guess they decided to
17
     go ahead and march anyway.
18
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay.
19
                MR. BURNET:
                             How did they -- you
20
     are saying how did they react?
21
                MS. HUNTLEY: Yes. How did they
22
     react when you told them that --
23
                             Well, some said,
                MR. BURNET:
```

Page 70 1 oh, well, we will go home; and some said, 2 well, I'm going to go ahead and march. 3 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. Did anybody 4 talk to law enforcement or anyone to get 5 them to change their minds and allow the march? 6 7 MR. BURNET: Well, I don't know 8 about that. I didn't. 9 MS. HUNTLEY: Did you have any 10 conversation with law enforcement about when the rally ended how people -- how to 11 12 guide people out of there or how to 13 instruct them to leave? 14 MR. BURNET: No, I didn't have a 15 conversation with law enforcement. 16 MS. HUNTLEY: When you had the 17 candlelight vigil, the "Get out to vote" 18 rallies, when you had those events, did you 19 have any conversations with law enforcement 20 about the events and what was going to 21 happen and how they were going to end or anything like that? 22 23 MR. BURNET: No.

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Page 71 1 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. So we get 2 to the event. So you get to the event. 3 Were you involved in setting up the equipment, the stage, or all of those 4 5 things for the presentations? 6 MR. BURNET: Yes, I was involved 7 in setting up the -- when you are talking 8 about equipment, you are talking about the 9 speaker sound system? 10 MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. 11 MR. BURNET: Yeah, I'm the one 12 that set that up. 13 MS. HUNTLEY: So how early did 14 you get there before the rally started to 15 start setting that stuff up? 16 MR. BURNET: Probably about two 17 hours. 18 MS. HUNTLEY: A couple of hours. 19 So maybe around three? 20 Well, maybe not MR. BURNET: 21 that early, but maybe an hour and a half or 22 so. 23 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And when

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Page 72
1
     you got -- when you got there, was that a
2
     plan where everybody was going to meet
     there early to get everything set up?
3
 4
                MR. BURNET:
                             Yes.
                MS. HUNTLEY: And so who all met
 5
     there when you arrived early for y'all to
 6
7
     set up for the rally?
 8
                MR. BURNET: Well, I really -- I
9
     really didn't have a lot of help to set up
10
     because I knew -- because I was -- I was
11
     moved from where I was supposed -- where I
12
     thought I was going to set up at. And the
13
     police themselves helped me move the
14
     equipment.
15
                              Okay. Where did
                MS. HUNTLEY:
16
     you think you were going to be?
17
                MR. BURNET: Well, I was -- I
18
     was further in the park. And they said,
19
     It's not good to be out here because people
20
     will be all around, you know. And I
21
     thought -- I said, Well, I only planned
22
     for, like, 300 people.
23
                MS. HUNTLEY:
                              So you were
```

Page 73 1 further in the park, almost kind of in the 2 center of it, and they moved you more to 3 the edge? 4 MR. BURNET: They moved me back 5 closer to the -- to the edge. MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. Were they 6 7 thinking there would be more people there? 8 You said you thought maybe 300. But were 9 they thinking more? 10 MR. BURNET: Well, apparently --11 apparently, they did, you know, because he 12 said that, where I was sitting, he said, 13 that was not a good spot. You are right in 14 the center of it. And people -- people 15 will be all around you, and you won't be 16 able to move about. 17 So I took him at his word. And 18 he moved me to where he thought I would --19 it was the best location. 20 MS. HUNTLEY: And once you saw 21 the people coming in at the rally, did you 22 think he was right? Was it better that you 23 moved there?

Page 74 1 MR. BURNET: Well, yes, I did. 2 MS. HUNTLEY: Was it more people 3 than you thought might come? MR. BURNET: It was a lot more 4 5 people than what we thought was coming. 6 MS. HUNTLEY: So well more than 7 your 300? MR. BURNET: Oh, yes, it was 8 9 well over 300. 10 MS. HUNTLEY: And was it just this -- do you remember what officer helped 11 12 you move your stuff? 13 MR. BURNET: Say that again. 14 MS. HUNTLEY: Do you remember 15 which officer helped you move? 16 MR. BURNET: Oh, well, the chief 17 himself helped me move one of the speakers. 18 And then he had another officer with him. 19 That was McMurray, Chief McMurray. 20 MS. HUNTLEY: So he helped you 21 move the speakers and the stage to get it 22 in a better site? 23 MR. BURNET: Yes.

75

		Page
1	MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And in	
2	hindsight, you think he that was the	
3	right thing to do, to move to that	
4	location?	
5	MR. BURNET: Well, I guess, yes,	
6	it would have been, because I would have	
7	I would have been I would have had	
8	people all around me rather than I	
9	wanted the people out in front of me, not	
10	behind and on my side. So it was a better	
11	location.	
12	MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And tell me	
13	about when you first communicated to the	
14	other folks that the permit was only for	
15	the rally and not for the march.	
16	MR. BURNET: Okay. Well, that	
17	was at the time of the when we started.	
18	When we started to do our speaking, that	
19	was when we let the public know that we	
20	wouldn't be doing the march.	
21	MS. HUNTLEY: So that was	
22	announced by one of the speakers?	
23	MR. BURNET: That was yes.	

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Page 76
     That was during the rally -- during the
1
     speaking, that's when we let the public
2
     know that we would just be -- just be
3
 4
     speaking; we would not be marching.
5
                MS. HUNTLEY: And do you
     remember who made that announcement?
 6
7
                MR. BURNET: No. In addition to
8
     myself, I know Bernard made it.
9
                MS. HUNTLEY: And did you -- and
10
     you made it as well yourself?
11
                MR. BURNET: Yes.
12
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. But as far
13
     as letting the organizers know, like
14
     Bernard and George, and Mary Jones and
15
     Patrick, all of those, you didn't tell them
16
     until you got there at the rally?
17
                MR. BURNET: No, I didn't -- I
18
     don't remember telling them until we got
19
     there.
20
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And how did
21
     the crowd respond when y'all announced that
22
     there wouldn't be a march?
23
                             Now, you done asked
                MR. BURNET:
```

```
Page 77
1
     me that before.
 2
                MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. Have I?
3
                MR. BURNET: Do you remember
     what the answer was then?
 4
5
                MS. HUNTLEY: No, sir, I don't.
                MR. BURNET: Oh, okay. Well,
 6
7
     some said, Okay.
8
                MS. HUNTLEY: Uh-huh.
9
                MR. BURNET: And I don't
10
     remember what everybody said.
11
                MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. Did
12
     the -- but I was talking -- now, you are
     right. I did ask you about that before
13
14
     with your group of leaders and everything.
15
     But I was specifically asking you now about
16
     the audience, like the people -- the
17
    hundreds of people that were there.
18
                When y'all announced to them
19
     that it's going to be over with the rally,
20
     we will not be having the march, how did
21
     those people respond?
22
                             Okay. Some of
                MR. BURNET:
23
     those people said, Okay.
```

```
Page 78
1
                MS. HUNTLEY: Did anybody yell
2
     about it or --
3
                MR. BURNET: Well, I don't
     remember whether they did any yelling
 4
5
     because it was -- it was -- the place was
6
     noisy as it were. You know, you couldn't
7
     hardly hear anyway.
8
                MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir.
9
                MR. BURNET: So I don't know if
10
     they got upset when that word was passed or
11
     what because it was already noisy.
12
                MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. And so
13
     when the speaking concluded, who told
14
     everyone that it was -- thank you all for
     coming and it was over?
15
16
                MR. BURNET: Okay. Now, you've
17
    taken a lot of time asking the same
18
     question over. I told you once that we
19
     announced it. It was over. We thanked
20
     them for coming.
21
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. That's
22
     fair.
23
                             All right.
                MR. BURNET:
```

```
Page 79
1
                MS. HUNTLEY: Because you told
2
     me that's what you do at every single
3
     rally, that you thank them and tell them
     it's --
 4
5
                MR. BURNET: Yes, we thank them.
     A lot of times we do a closing prayer.
6
7
                MS. HUNTLEY: Was there a
8
     closing prayer at this rally?
9
                MR. BURNET: I don't remember
10
     whether we did a closing prayer at that
11
     rally. I'm not -- but ordinarily we do a
12
     closing prayer.
                MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. And so
13
14
     when it was over, did you-all just start
15
    packing up?
16
                MR. BURNET: Uh-huh
17
     (affirmative). I told you before that once
18
     it was over, I took my sound equipment down
19
     and I packed it up and left.
20
                MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And do you
21
     know if any of the other folks stayed
22
    behind to participate in the march?
23
                MR. BURNET: You asked me that
```

Page 80 1 before too. Now, I don't know how many 2 people stayed behind. Because when I got 3 finished, we packed up and left. 4 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. 5 And please don't MR. BURNET: continue asking me the same -- I don't mind 6 7 answering your questions. But when you ask 8 me the same one over and over, I feel like 9 you are wasting my time. 10 MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. Well, 11 Mr. Burnet, I'm sorry about that. And I 12 don't mean to do that. I might be 13 wandering -- because you and I have had a 14 conversation on the phone. And this is the formal interview in front of the CAC. And 15 16 I don't want to miss something you may have 17 already told me --18 Okay. I will try MR. BURNET: 19 to be patient. 20 MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. Well, I 21 appreciate your patience with me. If I am -- if I am going all over the place and 22 coming back to something that you and I 23

Page 81 1 discussed before. 2 MR. BURNET: Okay. 3 MS. HUNTLEY: Your time is valuable, and I certainly don't want to 4 5 waste it. 6 MR. BURNET: Okay. 7 MS. HUNTLEY: And I appreciate 8 you taking time to be here today, in fact, 9 because -- so getting past the rally. 10 We've talked about all of those details and 11 what happened. Did -- did -- were there 12 any conversations between you and law 13 enforcement at all after the rally -- after 14 the rally, after it's all over, after 15 you've packed up and left and it's done? 16 MR. BURNET: No, I haven't 17 talked with any law enforcement officers 18 after the rally. 19 MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. And to 20 your knowledge, did the NAACP complain to law enforcement or to whoever issued the 21 22 permits about not being given the permit to 23 march?

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Page 82
1
                MR. BURNET: I'm thinking that
2
     we -- you know, I think we did have a
     conversation after the -- it seems like
3
     Bernard met with the chief of police.
 4
5
                MS. HUNTLEY: He did. Were you
6
     in that meeting?
7
                MR. BURNET: I think, yes,
8
     uh-huh.
9
                MS. HUNTLEY: How did that go?
10
                MR. BURNET: Well, it went kind
     of back and forward, back and forward. You
11
12
     know, Bernard had his opinions about --
     because he was the one that reminded -- it
13
14
     seemed like myself, the chief, his
15
     assistants, and I think it was the
16
     spokesperson for --
17
                MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir.
18
                MR. BURNET: But, yeah. And, of
19
     course, Bernard tried to assure them that
20
     he thought it would have been in the best
21
     interest of the community had the -- had
22
     they allowed the march to go on.
23
                MS. HUNTLEY: And in that
```

		Page 83
1	meeting, I know you said what they told you	
2	on the phone about they thought that it	
3	was you've already told me that, when	
4	they told you they weren't allowing the	
5	permit for the march, it was because of the	
6	events that had happened the night before.	
7	MR. BURNET: Uh-huh	
8	(affirmative).	
9	MS. HUNTLEY: Did did the	
10	chief in that meeting with y'all after the	
11	rally, did he specifically give any more	
12	details about why they didn't grant the	
13	permit for the march?	
14	MR. BURNET: To be honest with	
15	you, I can't remember what what he said	
16	there at the meeting. I remember being	
17	there, and I remember the conversation.	
18	But as far as what was said, you know, I	
19	can't tell you. I can't quote what was	
20	said.	
21	MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. And have	
22	you participated in any other rallies since	
23	that one on June the 3rd?	

Page 84 1 MR. BURNET: Not here in 2 Huntsville. 3 MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. MR. BURNET: Wait a minute. 4 5 Wait a minute. I did. I probably -- yes, I did. I was at another rally during that 6 7 same week or right after that. That was in 8 -- because it was -- it looked like every 9 group in the organization -- there was 10 rally after rally in the park. And, yeah, I remember going to another one. 11 12 MS. HUNTLEY: Do you remember 13 which group held that one? MR. BURNET: No, because it was 14 some -- it was a union. Some union did one 15 16 because they asked me -- I was one of the 17 speakers. 18 MS. HUNTLEY: And was it about 19 police brutality as well? 20 MR. BURNET: It was basically --21 yeah, basically, the same thing. 22 MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. And did 23 you speak at that one, or were you just

		Page 85
1	there?	Page 85
2	MR. BURNET: One of them I spoke	
3	at, and one of them I just attended.	
4	MS. HUNTLEY: And do you know	
	-	
5	whether or not there were any encounters	
6	with law enforcement at those two rallies?	
7	MR. BURNET: I don't remember.	
8	They may have been patrolling the area, but	
9	I didn't see any at the rally.	
10	MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir.	
11	MR. BURNET: But at one of	
12	them one of them there were plenty of	
13	law enforcement officers there because that	
14	one the one that was the mayor spoke	
15	at one. And there was quite a bit of law	
16	enforcement officers there.	
17	MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. And	
18	then one last "before the rally" question	
19	for you that I haven't asked, and that's	
20	did you hear anything by word of mouth or	
21	seeing it on social media or anything about	
22	outside agitators trying to come to y'all's	
23	rally, the one you had on the 3rd?	

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1
                MR. BURNET: I did hear some --
2
     some rumors of that, but I don't know of
3
     any outside agitators coming to our --
     coming to our rally in the park. I don't
 4
5
     know what went on during the marches.
                MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. So when
 6
7
     you say you heard rumors, was it by word of
8
     mouth, or did you read something on social
9
     media?
10
                MR. BURNET: No, I don't
     remember reading anything on social media.
11
12
                MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir.
13
                MR. BURNET: I might have heard
     something over the -- over the news that
14
15
     said something about some outside
16
     agitators.
17
                MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. And so
18
     during the rally, to the best of your
19
     knowledge, did most of the people you had
20
     contact with, were they local folks?
21
                MR. BURNET: What do you mean
22
     "local folks"? You are talking about --
23
     the other branch presidents, are you
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Page 87 1 considering them as being local folks? We have branch presidents from Limestone 2 3 County and Lawrence County. MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. Well, let 4 5 me rephrase that question. Were they people that were familiar to you? Did you 6 7 notice any strange folks being there that 8 you didn't recognize? 9 MR. BURNET: No, I didn't see 10 anyone that was -- looked like -- no, I 11 don't remember seeing any strange or odd 12 looking people there. 13 MS. HUNTLEY: Yes, sir. Okay. 14 Well, Jay, do you have anything 15 else? 16 MR. SEWELL: No. 17 MS. HUNTLEY: Okay. All right. 18 Well, thank you so much, so much. This was 19 so helpful, Mr. Burnet, for your time today to help the CAC get to the bottom of the 20 21 facts. 22 And what I am going to do now is 23 they are -- we are their lawyers, and we

Page 88 1 get to ask questions. But I was going to check with the chairwoman, Vicki, to see if 2 3 anybody else had any questions for Mr. Burnet for --4 5 MS. GUERRIERI: Okay. Thank 6 you, Liz. Thank you very much. 7 And thank you, Mr. Burnet. 8 Do any members -- well, 9 Mr. Burnet, are you willing to answer a few 10 questions for any members of the CAC if we 11 have any? 12 MR. BURNET: Are you going to 13 ask me the same questions over and over? MS. GUERRIERI: No. 14 I have got 15 one that I don't think has been asked before. 16 17 Let me just start and ask you 18 this question. 19 MR. BURNET: Okay. 20 MS. GUERRIERI: When you 21 originally went to ask for the permit, did 22 you request to go to Big Spring Park, or 23 were you originally planning to go there to

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Page 89
1
     the courthouse, in front of the courthouse
2
     and do your rally?
3
                MR. BURNET: I think -- I don't
     remember for sure. I'm not sure if we
 4
5
     asked for -- for the Big Spring or the
     courthouse.
 6
7
                MS. GUERRIERI: Okay. Because
8
     in that press conference that was given the
9
     day after, I understood that you had asked
10
     for the Square around the courthouse. And
11
     you were moved to Big Spring Park.
12
                And then the second time you
13
     were moved was because that would afford
14
     more shade being back under those trees.
15
     And you would be facing the participants at
16
     that point.
17
                But what I am hearing today is
18
     that you -- and for what you knew and
19
     understood that day, you were going to have
20
     your rally. You expected a large
21
     participation. And at the end of that
22
     rally, you got your stuff together and you
23
     went home.
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Page 90
 1
                MR. BURNET: Uh-huh
 2
     (affirmative).
 3
                MS. GUERRIERI: And that
 4
     concluded your event. You personally, nor
 5
     any member of your organization had any
     control over who chose, then, to leave and
 6
 7
     go up the steps and begin to march; is
 8
     that -- is that correct, Mr. Burnet?
 9
                MR. BURNET: Yes, to my
10
     knowledge. To the best of my knowledge,
11
     that is correct.
                MS. GUERRIERI: Okay. And do
12
13
     you remember if Mayor Battle spoke at your
14
     rally?
15
                MR. BURNET: He did.
16
                MS. GUERRIERI: Okay. Did
17
     Mr. Hamilton speak at your rally --
18
                MR. BURNET: No.
                MS. GUERRIERI: -- the city
19
20
     administrator?
21
                MR. BURNET: No.
22
                MS. GUERRIERI: Okay.
23
                MR. BURNET: Well, I don't
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Page 91
1
     remember him speaking.
2
                MS. GUERRIERI: Okay. Were
3
     there any other elected officials speaking
     at your rally? Mr. Keith, city councilman
 4
5
     for District 1? Any other members of the
     city council?
6
7
                MR. BURNET: Yeah -- well, not
8
     the city council. I know the -- Malone,
9
    but, you know, the District 6 county
10
    commissioner.
11
                MS. GUERRIERI: Right. Okay.
12
     JesHenry Malone was there, and he spoke;
13
    right?
14
                MR. BURNET: Yes, Henry, he
15
     spoke.
16
                MS. GUERRIERI: Okay. That's
17
    about all I had. They were different
18
     questions.
19
                Does anybody else on the council
20
    have any other questions for Mr. Burnet
    that have not been asked of him before?
21
22
                MR. LOVE: I don't have
23
     anything, Vicki.
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		Page 92
1	MS. GUERRIERI: Okay. Shelly?	
2	MS. MCCULLEY: I do. I do, Ms.	
3	Vicki.	
4	Being that I didn't watch any of	
5	the videotape from that that rally, so I	
6	have no idea how the atmosphere was. I am	
7	just curious, was it was it calm that	
8	day? Did everybody was your goal set?	
9	Did people understand what you were wanting	
10	what you were wanting to get out there?	
11	MR. BURNET: Well, I thought	
12	they did. But what we were trying to do	
13	is, like I said, educate the public	
14	MS. MCCULLEY: Okay.	
15	MR. BURNET: on the on the	
16	dos and don'ts and how to how to respond	
17	to or how to prevent something like this	
18	from happening in the future.	
19	MS. MCCULLEY: So at the go	
20	ahead. I'm sorry.	
21	MR. BURNET: I don't know if	
22	they understood that or not.	
23	MS. MCCULLEY: Okay. But at the	

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Page 93
1
     end of your evening, at the end of your
     rally, it was a calm atmosphere? It wasn't
2
3
     ramped up? People weren't stepping
     sideways?
 4
                MR. BURNET: Well, it seemed to
5
 6
     have been like any -- any other ordinary
7
     rally that we -- you know, that we've
8
     always had. It didn't seem like it was
9
     people ramped up and wanting to get out of
10
     control.
11
                               Okay.
                                      You know,
                MS. MCCULLEY:
12
     I was off doing something else.
                                      So I
13
     didn't know that that was going on. So I
14
     had no idea of the atmosphere. So that's
15
     what -- that was my question. You know, I
16
     was just curious as to how people were
17
     acting about this.
18
                             They seemed to have
                MR. BURNET:
19
     been pretty peaceful to me.
20
                MS. MCCULLEY: Well, good.
21
     Good. Like I said, I have not watched any
22
     footage, so I had no idea.
23
                But thank you for your time.
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Page 94 1 MR. BURNET: All right. 2 MS. GUERRIERI: Does any other member of the council have any questions 3 for Mr. Burnet? 4 5 (No response.) 6 MS. GUERRIERI: If not, then I 7 want to thank you, again, Mr. Burnet, for 8 your willingness to come in and give 9 testimony today. 10 MR. BURNET: All right. 11 MS. GUERRIERI: We are -- we are 12 trying our very best to give an accurate and very detailed review of this task that 13 14 we have been assigned by the city council. 15 And your testimony is a big part of that. 16 And I appreciate it very much. Thank you. 17 MR. BURNET: All right. Thank 18 you for having me. 19 MS. HUNTLEY: Thank you so much, 20 Mr. Burnet. 21 MR. BURNET: All right. Thank 22 you. 23 MS. HUNTLEY: Sorry for the

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Page 95
     double questions.
 1
                MR. BURNET: That's all right.
 2
 3
     I will send you a bill.
 4
                MS. HUNTLEY: All right. You
     have a good day.
 5
                 (Whereupon, the interview ended
 6
                at 3:30 p.m.)
 7
 8
 9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
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19
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21
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23
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		Page	96
1	CERTIFICATE		
2			
3	STATE OF ALABAMA)		
4	JEFFERSON COUNTY)		
5			
6	I hereby certify that the above and		
7	foregoing interview was taken down by me in		
8	stenotype, and the questions and answers		
9	thereto were reduced to computer print		
10	under my supervision, and that the		
11	foregoing represents a true and correct		
12	transcript of the testimony given by said		
13	witness upon said interview.		
14	I further certify that I am neither		
15	of counsel nor of kin to the parties to the		
16	action, nor am I anywise interested in the		
17	results of said cause.		
18	Signed the 4th day of February, 2021.		
19			
20	/s/ Diana B. Williams, CCR		
21	DIANA B. WILLIAMS, CCR Alabama CCR No. 104, Expires 09/30/2021		
22	Commissioner for the State of Alabama at		
23	Large, Commission expires 04/11/2023		