

1 STATE OF ILLINOIS)
2 COUNTY OF C O O K) SS:

3 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
4 COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CRIMINAL DIVISION

5 THE PEOPLE OF THE)
6 STATE OF ILLINOIS,)
7 Plaintiff,) Indictment 09 CR 762
8 vs.)
9 WILLIAM BALFOUR,)
10 Defendant.)

JURY TRIAL

11 EXCERPT REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS of the trial
12 had before the HONORABLE CHARLES BURNS, and a jury,
13 on the 23rd day of April, 2012, in Chicago, Illinois.

APPEARANCES:

14 MS. ANITA M. ALVAREZ,
15 State's Attorney of Cook County, by:
16 MS. VERYL GAMBINO, MR. JAMES MCKAY, and
17 MS. JENNIFER BAGBY,
Assistant State's Attorneys,
appeared on behalf of the People;

18 MR. ABISHI C. CUNNINGHAM,
19 Public Defender of Cook County, by:
20 MS. AMY THOMPSON, MS. CYNTHIA BROWN,
21 MR. SCOTT KOZICKI, and MR. EDWARD KOZIBOSKI,
Assistant Public Defenders,
appeared for the Defendant,
William Balfour.

22 Marlene Kerr, CSR
23 Official Court Reporter
24 2650 S. California
Chicago, Illinois 60608
License No. 084-003554

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THE COURT: Is the State prepared to call a witness?

MR. MCKAY: Yes.

THE COURT: You may do so.

Ladies and gentlemen, if you want to stretch, that's fine. We'll go right into the first witness in just a minute.

Call your first witness, State.

Everybody have a seat, please.

(Witness enters courtroom.)

THE COURT: Could you turn towards me and raise your right hand.

(Witness complied.)

THE CLERK: Do you solemnly swear the testimony you're about to give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth so help you God?

THE WITNESS: I do.

THE COURT: Have a seat.

Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, could you please have a seat.

Mr. McKay, you may proceed.

1 JENNIFER KATE HUDSON,
2 called as a witness on behalf of the People of the State
3 of Illinois, having been first duly sworn, was examined
4 and testified as follows:

5 DIRECT EXAMINATION

6 BY MR. MCKAY:

7 Q. In a loud, clear voice please state your name,
8 introduce yourself to the ladies and gentlemen, and
9 spell your last name for the benefit of the court
10 reporter.

11 A. My name is Jennifer Kate Hudson, H-u-d-s-o-n.

12 Q. Without going into a specific address, where do
13 you live?

14 A. Chicago, Illinois.

15 Q. Are you married or single?

16 A. Single.

17 Q. Do you have any children?

18 A. I do.

19 Q. Boy or girl?

20 A. Boy.

21 Q. How old is he?

22 A. He's two.

23 Q. What do you do for a living?

24 A. I'm an actress and singer.

1 Q. I want to take you back in time and ask briefly
2 where did you grow up?

3 A. I grew up in Chicago, Illinois, on the south
4 side of Chicago.

5 Q. Who is Darnell Donerson?

6 A. My mother.

7 Q. Who is Jason Hudson?

8 A. My brother.

9 Q. And who is Julian King?

10 A. My nephew.

11 Q. What schools did you go to in Chicago?

12 A. Beale School when I lived on 60th and Union at
13 my grandmother's house. That was my first school.

14 Q. After Beale School where did you go?

15 A. Then we moved to Throop, and I went to Bonn
16 School and then after that we moved to Yale Street, and
17 I went to Yale school.

18 Q. When you moved to Yale Street, how old were
19 you?

20 A. I was about 10 or 11. I was in the sixth
21 grade.

22 Q. And can you tell us the address of your home on
23 Yale Street?

24 A. 7019 South Yale.

1 Q. When you moved to Yale, what school did you
2 attend?

3 A. Yale school.

4 Q. Where was Yale school in relation to your
5 house?

6 A. Almost directly across the street from my house
7 but slightly to the right. I could see it out of my
8 bedroom window.

9 Q. When you lived on Yale Street, who did you live
10 there with?

11 A. It was a house full of us. My mother, Darnell,
12 my sister Julian, my older sister Julian, my brother
13 Jason, and myself. I'm the youngest. And also was my
14 grandmother and grandfather.

15 Q. What grades did you go to when you went to Yale
16 School?

17 A. Sixth grade I think I started at Yale, sixth
18 grade.

19 Q. Did you graduate from Yale School?

20 A. Yes, I did.

21 Q. During those three grades, 6th, 7th, and 8th
22 grade at Yale School, did you go to school with anybody
23 there that you see in the courtroom today?

24 A. Yeah, I went to school with William. He was my

1 classmate.

2 Q. Can you point to him and tell us what he's
3 wearing today?

4 A. He's wearing a white shirt with a bluish,
5 grayish tie sitting right there.

6 MR. MCKAY: Your Honor, may the record reflect
7 an in-court identification of the defendant, William
8 Balfour?

9 THE COURT: The record will so reflect.

10 BY MR. MCKAY:

11 Q. Were you in the same class with the defendant?

12 A. I was.

13 Q. Did you have a relationship with the defendant
14 at that time?

15 A. Not at all.

16 Q. How old were you when you started to sing?

17 A. I was seven. I started singing in the church.

18 Q. What church would that be?

19 A. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church, 45th and
20 Greenwood.

21 THE COURT: Excuse me, Mr. McKay.

22 If you could just speak up a little bit
23 and slow down.

24 THE WITNESS: Yes.

1 BY MR. MCKAY:

2 Q. Did your mother, Darnell Donerson, have a
3 position at that church?

4 A. Yes. She was the secretary of the church. She
5 used to make the church bulletins every Saturday, and
6 she was in the choir as well.

7 Q. Ms. Hudson, in 2005, 2006 who was living with
8 you at 7019 South Yale?

9 A. My mother, my nephew, my brother, my sister,
10 and myself.

11 Q. Could you tell us approximately when you moved
12 out of the house at 79th and South Yale?

13 A. I want to say the summer of 2006.

14 Q. After eighth grade at the Yale School did the
15 defendant move away?

16 A. Yes. He went away.

17 Q. Around the time you were moving out of Yale,
18 did anybody re-appear in the neighborhood?

19 A. Yes, quite a few of our like old neighbors
20 started to come back that moved out of the neighborhood,
21 and William was one of them that came back which was
22 kind of odd seeing your old neighbors again, you know.

23 Q. When he was back in the neighborhood in '06,
24 did he still live in that neighborhood?

1 A. No.

2 Q. Back in time when you were in grade school, did
3 the defendant live in that neighborhood?

4 A. When we were in grade school, yes.

5 Q. Do you know what street he lived on when you
6 were in grade school with him?

7 A. He lived on the same block as I did, just at
8 the corner of the block, more closer -- a little further
9 south, like 71st, right at the tip of Yale, right on the
10 corner of my block.

11 Q. Back then when you were in grammar school, did
12 you know any other members of the defendant's family?

13 MR. KOZIBOSKI: Objection to relevance.

14 THE COURT: Overruled.

15 THE WITNESS: I also knew William's brother
16 Raymond. They were well-known in school, but Raymond
17 was my brother's classmate and William was in my
18 classroom.

19 BY MR. MCKAY:

20 Q. Some time after you moved out of your mother's
21 house -- strike that.

22 Was 79th and South Yale your mother's
23 house?

24 A. Yes, it was my mother's house.

1 Q. Some time after you moved out of your mother's
2 house in the summer of 2006, did you learn that your
3 sister Julia was dating somebody?

4 A. Yeah, I eventually learned that Julia and
5 William were dating shortly after he resurfaced to the
6 neighborhood.

7 Q. Could you tell us from almost the youngest the
8 order of you and your siblings?

9 A. Julia is the oldest, Jason is next, and then
10 I'm the youngest. There were three of us.

11 Q. During this time that you had moved out of the
12 house, did you still communicate with your sister Julia?

13 A. Yes, I communicated with all of my family.

14 Q. Some time before December 30th, 2006, did you
15 tell Julia, your sister, about the defendant and any
16 future plans they might have?

17 MR. KOZIBOSKI: Objection.

18 THE COURT: Objection sustained. Rephrase the
19 question.

20 BY MR. MCKAY:

21 Q. Did you tell your sister Julia about her
22 marrying the defendant or not?

23 MR. KOZIBOSKI: Objection.

24 THE COURT: Overruled.

1 THE WITNESS: None of us wanted her to marry
2 him.

3 MR. KOZIBOSKI: Objection.

4 THE COURT: The objection is going to be
5 sustained.

6 BY MR. MCKAY:

7 Q. Did you say something to Julia?

8 A. Yes, I would tell her over and over again not
9 to marry William.

10 Q. Could you tell us why you told Julia not to
11 marry the defendant?

12 MR. KOZIBOSKI: Objection.

13 THE COURT: Overruled.

14 THE WITNESS: None of us, not myself, my
15 mother, or my brother, we did not like how he treated
16 her, and I didn't like how he treated my nephew.

17 MR. KOZIBOSKI: Objection; foundation.

18 THE COURT: Sustained.

19 BY MR. MCKAY:

20 Q. Did you tell Julia you did not like the way he
21 treated your sister?

22 A. Yes, I told -- we told her that -- I told her
23 that.

24 Q. And did you also say -- strike that.

1 Did you not like William Balfour?

2 A. Never, not even in grammar school.

3 MR. KOZIBOSKI: Objection.

4 THE COURT: Overruled. The answer may stand.

5 THE WITNESS: No.

6 BY MR. MCKAY:

7 Q. Did you learn some time after December 30,
8 2006, that your sister, Julia, got married?

9 A. Yeah, I found out at least probably almost two
10 months after they were married that they were married,
11 and I was told by one of my makeup artists that they
12 were married. None of us knew.

13 MR. KOZIBOSKI: Objection.

14 THE COURT: Sustained. Pose another question.

15 BY MR. MCKAY:

16 Q. When did you learn that your sister married the
17 defendant?

18 A. About at least two months after they were
19 married. I believe they married --

20 MR. KOZIBOSKI: Objection.

21 THE COURT: Sustained.

22 BY MR. MCKAY:

23 Q. Though you had moved away and had your career,
24 did you return to your mother's house on Yale throughout

1 2007 and into 2008?

2 A. Yes, of course.

3 Q. Well, after the defendant married Julia Hudson
4 where was he living?

5 A. He was living in the house, in my mother's
6 house.

7 Q. Before you moved out did you have to baby-sit
8 your nephew, Julian King?

9 A. Yeah. I was, you know, it was always me and my
10 Tugga Bear. That's what I called him.

11 Q. What was your sister doing at the time?

12 A. Julia has had many jobs. I don't know if it
13 was Burger King. I believe she was a school bus driver
14 at that time, Sunrise.

15 Q. Could you briefly -- and I'm going to direct
16 your attention now to 2008. Can you briefly describe
17 your relationship with your mother Darnell Donerson?

18 A. In 2008 or just period? I mean, again, I slept
19 with my mom until I was 16 years old, you know, and even
20 after I moved out, I would go back home and lay in the
21 bed with her. Any time I go to visit.

22 Q. When you weren't at home, how often would you
23 talk to your mother?

24 A. Every single day.

1 Q. How would you communicate with your mother when
2 you weren't in Chicago?

3 A. Mostly through text. Everyday, though,
4 everyday.

5 Q. Did your mother have a cell phone in 2008?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. When you and your mother would text, for
8 example, in October of 2008, generally who would text
9 the other first?

10 A. My mom. Any time I would wake up in the
11 morning, there would be a text from my mother every
12 morning.

13 Q. Approximately what time would you get a text
14 from your mother in the morning?

15 A. At least by 9:00, 9:00 in the morning. There
16 was guaranteed a text message from mom.

17 Q. When you would text her, how quickly or not
18 would she respond with a text to you?

19 A. Instantly because she was, you know, always
20 worried so -- because I'm always on the road so, "I just
21 needed to hear from you. I'm glad you're okay." So it
22 was instant. Right behind my text she would send me
23 one.

24 Q. Before October 24, 2008, did you give your

1 mother something of value?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. When, approximately, before October 24, 2008?

4 A. Well, I want to say the last time I was home
5 was probably like two months before then, and I left her
6 a bunch of signed checks because that's what I always do
7 to pay the bills, like mainly the gas bill. So she
8 would have me sign checks, and I would leave them there
9 with her at the house.

10 Q. What bank were these checks drawn from?

11 A. Pullman Bank on 63rd and Halsted.

12 Q. And did you sign these checks yourself?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And were these checks blank but for your
15 signature?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. About how many of them did you give your mother
18 about two months before October 24, 2008?

19 A. About eight, seven or eight of them.

20 Q. When was your sister Julia's birthday in 2008?

21 A. October 23rd.

22 Q. Some time before that did you buy a birthday
23 gift for your sister?

24 A. Yes, I did.

1 Q. What did you buy her?

2 A. A computer. She wanted a computer so I got her
3 a computer.

4 Q. And were arrangements made to have that
5 delivered to your sister?

6 A. Yes. My assistant had it sent to her, and she
7 got it on her birthday like she always do.

8 Q. Directing your attention to the late part of
9 July 2008, did you have occasion to go to St. Louis?

10 A. Yes, our family reunion.

11 Q. Was your mother there?

12 A. The whole family was there, my mother, my
13 sister Julia, my brother Jason, my nephew Julian, and
14 myself, and also my fiance was with us.

15 Q. What is your fiance's name?

16 A. David Otunga.

17 Q. The defendant was not there; isn't that
18 correct?

19 A. No, sir, he was not there.

20 Q. Now, I would like to talk to you a little bit
21 about the last time you saw your mother, your brother,
22 and your nephew alive. Can you tell the ladies and
23 gentlemen of the jury when was that?

24 A. It was the weekend before everything happened.

1 It was a Sunday.

2 Q. Where did you see them?

3 A. At my house.

4 Q. Here in Chicago?

5 A. Here in Chicago, yes, in my house.

6 Q. Was your sister Julia there as well?

7 A. It was the entire family like never before.

8 Then my whole family came to my house. Normally it
9 would just be Julia and Julian, but this time it was the
10 whole family. It was my mother. Excuse me.

11 THE COURT: Take your time. Would you like a
12 glass of water, Ms. Hudson?

13 THE WITNESS: I'm okay.

14 It was my mother, my brother, my sister,
15 my nephew, and the dog. And I say it that way because
16 it was very rare. Like my mom had barred me from coming
17 back home, "You don't need to come all the time."
18 Because every time I would come home, it would be a lot
19 of people.

20 So they decided to come see me, and this
21 was the first time that the entire family came together,
22 and I was so surprised, like Oh, my God. The whole
23 family is here. They even brought the dog, too. And in
24 walks my mom, my sister, my brother, Julian, and then

1 Dream Girl is coming in the door behind them, and I'm
2 like, Oh, my God.

3 That was the last time I saw them. Thank
4 God I got that opportunity.

5 BY MR. MCKAY:

6 Q. And what was the name of the dog?

7 A. Dream Girl. My brother named her Dream Girl.

8 Q. What did you and your mother, brother, and
9 nephew do that day at your home here in Chicago that
10 Sunday?

11 A. Well, my nephew Julian was sitting, reading a
12 book in the living room.

13 MR. KOZIBOSKI: Objection to the relevance.

14 THE COURT: Overruled. You may proceed.

15 THE WITNESS: My mother and my brother -- I was
16 playing my piano, and my mother sat on one side of me,
17 and my brother sat on the other side, and I was singing
18 them a song. And it was just us being family.

19 BY MR. MCKAY:

20 Q. Did your mother and your brother and your
21 nephew all appear to be in good health and in good
22 spirits?

23 A. Very good health and good spirits, yes.

24 Q. You know, at that time do you know whether your

1 brother Jason had enemies?

2 A. None.

3 MR. KOZIBOSKI: Objection.

4 THE COURT: Overruled. The answer may stand.

5 THE WITNESS: No.

6 BY MR. MCKAY:

7 Q. Ms. Hudson, I would like to direct your
8 attention to Friday, October 24, 2008. Could you tell
9 us where you were that morning?

10 A. I was in Tampa, Florida with my fiance. He
11 asked me to come out and visit him, and so I did on my
12 off time. So I was there visiting him.

13 Q. Approximately what time did you wake up that
14 morning in Florida?

15 A. I woke up about 10:00 or 11:00 in the morning,
16 and I noticed that -- I'm looking to see the text from
17 my mom and it wasn't any.

18 Q. When you saw your mother had not texted you
19 that morning, what went through your mind?

20 A. I thought it was very strange because if I'm
21 waking up around 10:00 or 11 o'clock and there is no
22 message from her at all, that was just really odd to me.
23 And I kept sitting there wondering like that's strange.
24 That was the first thing I said, My mom didn't text me.

1 Like, you know, and so --

2 Q. When you say 10 o'clock, that would be Florida
3 time, right?

4 A. Uh-huh, yes.

5 Q. Well, 10 o'clock in the morning Florida time
6 means 9 o'clock here, right?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Well, at about 11 o'clock Florida time what did
9 you do?

10 A. I text my mom.

11 Q. And if it's 11 o'clock Florida time, that meant
12 it was 10 o'clock a.m. Chicago time, right?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Did your mother text you back?

15 A. No.

16 Q. What did you do next?

17 A. Well, I was, you know, waiting it out. I
18 eventually fell back to sleep like, okay, maybe she's
19 busy, I don't know. I knew she would get back to me,
20 you know. So I remember falling back to sleep, and when
21 I woke up, that's when I got the news.

22 Q. From who?

23 A. Well, my sister called my fiance's phone. I
24 remember it like yesterday, obviously. And he couldn't

1 understand what she was saying because she was so
2 hysterical, and I grabbed the phone from him and that's
3 when she was -- she told me.

4 Q. Was this later in the afternoon at that point?

5 A. It was around, I want to say, about 2:00 or
6 3 o'clock, somewhere around that time.

7 Q. As a result of that phone conversation with
8 your sister Julia, what did you do that day?

9 A. I was doing everything in my power to get home.

10 Q. And did you?

11 A. Yes, sir, I did.

12 Q. About what time did you make it back to
13 Chicago?

14 A. I got home -- I got to Chicago -- it was
15 nighttime. I don't remember the exact time, but it was
16 nighttime when I did get home.

17 Q. Some time the next day or so did you have the
18 occasion to go to the Cook County Medical Examiner's
19 Office?

20 A. I did.

21 Q. For what purpose?

22 A. To identify my family.

23 Q. And did you identify the body of your mother,
24 Darnell, and your brother Jason?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Did you remain in Chicago?

3 A. Yes, sir.

4 Q. Where did Julia stay after this happened?

5 A. We stayed together. We stayed inside a hotel
6 for weeks if not maybe -- maybe even a month.

7 Q. Saturday and Sunday were the police out looking
8 to find your nephew?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. I want to direct your attention to some time on
11 Monday, October 27, 2008. Did you receive some terrible
12 news?

13 A. They found Julian.

14 Q. How did you learn about it?

15 A. I remember my sister, you know, screaming in
16 the hotel saying they found him and he was gone.

17 Q. Was there a television in your hotel room?

18 A. Yes, there was a television in the hotel room.
19 We couldn't watch much TV obviously during that time but
20 we were, you know -- we had to watch to see what was
21 going on with Julian.

22 Q. Later that afternoon, October 27, 2008, did you
23 have to go back to the Cook County Medical Examiner's
24 Office?

1 A. Yes, I did.

2 Q. For what purpose?

3 A. To identify my nephew.

4 Q. Ms. Hudson, before the police found your
5 nephew, did you establish anything in the hopes of the
6 safe return of Julian King?

7 A. Yes, I put up a hundred thousand dollars.

8 MR. KOZIBOSKI: Objection to the relevance.

9 THE COURT: How is this relevant?

10 MR. MCKAY: Because no claim was ever put in.

11 THE COURT: I'll allow limited inquiry into
12 this.

13 BY MR. MCKAY:

14 Q. I'll ask you again. Before the police found
15 your nephew, did you establish anything for the safe
16 return of Julian King?

17 A. \$100,000 reward if anybody saw him, found him,
18 knew where he was. We were trying everything, anything
19 we could to get him back.

20 Q. Did anybody to your knowledge put in a claim
21 for that award?

22 A. No.

23 Q. Before the police found your nephew on Monday,
24 October 27, 2008, did anybody make a ransom demand?

1 MR. KOZIBOSKI: Objection.

2 THE COURT: Objection sustained.

3 THE WITNESS: No.

4 MR. MCKAY: May I approach?

5 THE COURT: You may.

6 BY MR. MCKAY:

7 Q. Ms. Hudson, I'm going to show you a photograph
8 that we've marked as People's Exhibit No. 1 for
9 identification. Can you please describe what is shown
10 in this photograph?

11 A. My mother's house.

12 Q. Is this how your mother's house looked back in
13 October of 2008?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. And that's the house?

16 A. That's the house.

17 Q. At 79th and South Yale?

18 A. Yes, sir.

19 Q. Does this photograph truly and accurately
20 represent how that house looked back then?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Now, I would like to show you People's Exhibit
23 No. 2 for identification. Can you tell us who is
24 depicted in this photograph?

1 A. My mother.

2 Q. When was this picture of your mother taken?

3 A. On her birthday.

4 Q. When was that?

5 A. November 7th.

6 Q. Is this how your mother looked back then?

7 A. Yes. That's my mommy.

8 Q. I would like to show you People's Exhibit No. 3
9 for identification. Can you tell us who is depicted in
10 this photograph?

11 A. My brother Jason.

12 Q. Can you tell us when this picture was taken?

13 A. It looks like around whenever he received this
14 new vehicle that he was riding in.

15 THE COURT: If you could keep your voice up.

16 THE WITNESS: Oh, I'm sorry. I can't exactly
17 say when this was, but I do remember the new car that he
18 had.

19 BY MR. MCKAY:

20 Q. Do you see any school buses in the background?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Your sister worked for the Sunrise
23 Transportation Company, didn't she?

24 A. Yes.

1 Q. And now I would like to show you People's
2 Exhibit No. 4 for identification. Can you tell us who
3 is depicted in this photograph?

4 A. My nephew Julian.

5 Q. When was this picture taken?

6 A. It looks like my last visit because I would
7 always take pictures of him.

8 Q. Your last visit was how long before October 24,
9 2008?

10 A. About two months.

11 Q. Ms. Hudson, do People's Exhibits 2, 3, and 4
12 show your mother Darnell Donerson, your brother Jason
13 Hudson, and your nephew Julian King as they appeared in
14 life?

15 A. Yes, sir.

16 MR. MCKAY: Your Honor, at this time I believe
17 we would be proceeding by way of stipulation.

18 THE COURT: Is that correct?

19 MR. KOZIBOSKI: Yes, Judge.

20 THE COURT: Okay, ladies and gentlemen, a
21 stipulation is an agreement by and between the parties
22 that a certain item or evidence is not in dispute. You
23 can consider a stipulation as if a live witness
24 testified to that event.

1 You may proceed.

2 MR. MCKAY: Thank you, Judge.

3 Your Honor, and ladies and gentlemen of
4 the jury, it is stipulated between the parties, that if
5 I were to show People's Exhibit No. 5 to Ms. Hudson, she
6 would identify this exhibit as a picture of her mother
7 as she appeared at the Cook County Medical Examiner's
8 Office on or about October 25, 2008.

9 So stipulated?

10 MR. KOZIBOSKI: So stipulated.

11 MR. MCKAY: It's stipulated between the parties
12 that if I were to show Ms. Hudson People's Exhibit
13 No. 6, she would identify it as a picture of her brother
14 Jason Hudson as he appeared in death at the Cook County
15 Medical Examiner's Office on or about October 25, 2008.

16 And finally -- excuse me. So stipulated?

17 MR. KOZIBOSKI: So stipulated.

18 MR. MCKAY: Finally, ladies and gentlemen, if I
19 were to show Ms. Hudson People's Exhibit No. 7 for
20 identification, she would identify the picture as a
21 picture of her nephew, Julian King, as he appeared in
22 death at the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office on or
23 about October 27, 2008.

24 So stipulated?

1 MR. KOZIBOSKI: So stipulated.

2 THE COURT: Those stipulations will be
3 admitted.

4 MR. MCKAY: Your Honor, at this time we seek to
5 publish Exhibits 1, 2, 3, and 4, not the stipulated
6 photographs, at this point.

7 THE COURT: Any objection to the admission?

8 MR. KOZIBOSKI: No objection.

9 THE COURT: They will be admitted.

10 BY MR. MCKAY:

11 Q. Ms. Hudson, do you have the screen on in front
12 of you?

13 A. Yes, sir.

14 Q. Does this People's Exhibit No. 1, the house
15 that you just identified for all of us here today?

16 A. Yes, sir.

17 Q. And showing you People's Exhibit No. 2, is this
18 a picture of your mother, Darnell Donerson?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And showing you People's Exhibit No. 3, is this
21 a picture of your brother Jason Hudson?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And finally, showing you People's Exhibit
24 No. 4, is this a picture of your nephew Julian King?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. At the time of their death was your mother
3 57 years old?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Was your brother Jason 29?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And was your nephew seven?

8 A. Yes.

9 MR. MCKAY: Your Honor, may I have a moment?

10 THE COURT: You may.

11 (Brief pause.)

12 BY MR. MCKAY:

13 Q. Some time before he passed, did you have
14 occasion to buy your brother Jason a vehicle?

15 A. Yes, I did.

16 Q. What kind of vehicle was it?

17 A. It was a truck. I'm not good with truck names,
18 but it was what he wanted and so I got it for him. It
19 was white.

20 Q. About how long before he was killed did you buy
21 the SUV?

22 A. I don't remember it being very long. Maybe a
23 few months or so but it wasn't very long.

24 MR. MCKAY: Thank you, your Honor. Thank you,

1 Ms. Hudson.

2 THE COURT: Cross.

3 MR. KOZIBOSKI: If I can have one moment.

4 CROSS EXAMINATION

5 BY MR. KOZIBOSKI:

6 Q. Good afternoon, Ms. Hudson.

7 A. Good afternoon.

8 Q. You lived on Yale from the time that you were
9 in sixth grade until 2006, right?

10 A. Yes, sir.

11 Q. When did you first move over to Yale?

12 A. I missed that.

13 Q. When did you move to Yale initially? What year
14 was that?

15 A. Let me think about that one. Maybe like '93.
16 I don't know. Somewhere in there. About '93, '92, '93.

17 Q. And when you moved over there, William Balfour
18 lived over there as well, correct?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And then after he moved away, you didn't see
21 him again for several years?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And you learned after you moved away in 2006
24 that he had this relationship with your sister?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. And you learned that through your sister and
3 through other people in your family, correct?

4 A. Correct.

5 Q. You didn't have any kind of friendship with
6 Mr. Balfour, did you?

7 A. Never, no.

8 Q. In fact, you never really talked to him very
9 much, did you?

10 A. No.

11 Q. You were last at the house on Yale about two
12 months prior to this terrible incident, right?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And you didn't see Mr. Balfour when you were
15 there?

16 A. I'm sure he was around. I mean, after all,
17 they were married by then.

18 Q. But you don't recall seeing him when you were
19 there, or did you see him when you were there? Let me
20 ask it that way?

21 A. I tried to keep my distance with William any
22 chance I got. Where he was, I tried not to be. So if I
23 saw him, I separated myself.

24 Q. So now you testified that you last saw your

1 family about a week before this, right?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And you testified that they were all in good
4 health?

5 A. Yes, sir.

6 Q. However, Jason did have problems with his leg?

7 A. Yes, he did.

8 Q. And that was from being shot?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. And that was from being shot on two separate
11 occasions?

12 A. Two separate occasions? I don't know about two
13 separate occasions but okay.

14 Q. And do you know what Jason did for a living?

15 A. I don't really know.

16 MR. KOZIBOSKI: If I can have a moment.

17 THE COURT: Sure.

18 MR. KOZIBOSKI: Nothing further. Thank you,
19 Judge.

20 THE COURT: Any redirect?

21 MR. MCKAY: May we ask for a brief sidebar?

22 THE COURT: Sure.

23 (Whereupon a sidebar was had in open
24 court, out of the hearing of the jury:)

1 MR. MCKAY: Thank you, Judge. I have no
2 redirect.

3 THE COURT: No redirect.

4 Thank you, Ms. Hudson. You can step down.

5 (Witness complied.)

6 THE COURT: Okay, ladies and gentlemen. I've
7 been told that the next witness is going to be a fairly
8 long witness. So instead of starting the testimony and
9 having a break during the middle of direct examination,
10 we're going to break for lunch at this time. I'm sure
11 that the cream brulee is cooling right now.

12 Ladies and gentlemen, I know you've heard
13 one witness and you've heard the opening statements, but
14 you are not to discuss this case among yourself. The
15 proper time to do so is at the conclusion of the
16 evidence, after the arguments of counsel, and I instruct
17 you as to the law in the case. If somebody tries to
18 talk to you or talks to you in your presence about this
19 case, it's your duty and obligation to report it to the
20 sheriff immediately.

21 We're going to break for lunch. Hopefully
22 it will arrive in the next couple of minutes. We're a
23 few minutes early on our break, but we'll see you back
24 here after lunch.

1 All rise for the jury.

2

3 (Whereupon the following proceedings were
4 had out of the presence and hearing of the
5 jury.)

6

7 THE COURT: We'll break until 2:30.

8 MS. THOMPSON: Your Honor, can I perfect an
9 objection I made during opening?

10 THE COURT: Go ahead.

11 MS. THOMPSON: Your Honor, I objected during
12 Ms. Gambino's open because she spoke about a
13 conversation that just previously was excluded. She
14 talked about a conversation where William Balfour was
15 told by Julia that she was going to have sexual
16 relations with another man. That was the subject of a
17 motion in limine previously and brought up again this
18 morning in chambers and sustained. That was the purpose
19 of my objection.

20 THE COURT: Okay.

21 MS. GAMBINO: My response is I didn't say that.
22 I said she told them she was going to spend her birthday
23 with another man. I specifically followed the ruling
24 you had made, and the only other conversation about that

1 was the threats he made to take Julian and to kill her
2 and her family.

3 THE COURT: I recall it the same way
4 Ms. Gambino does, that she was going to spend her
5 birthday with another man.

6 Respectfully, your objection is made and
7 my ruling still stands.

8 We'll see everybody back here at 2:30.

9
10 (Which were all the proceedings
11 had in the above-entitled cause.)
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1 STATE OF ILLINOIS)
2 COUNTY OF C O O K) SS.

3 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY
4 COUNTY DEPARTMENT-CRIMINAL DIVISION

5 I, MARLENE KERR, Official Court Reporter
6 of the Circuit Court of Cook County, County
7 Department-Criminal Division, do hereby certify that I
8 reported in shorthand the proceedings had of the trial
9 in the above-entitled cause; that I thereafter caused
10 the foregoing to be transcribed into typewriting, which
11 I hereby certify to be a true and accurate transcript of
12 the excerpt Report of Proceedings had before the
13 HONORABLE CHARLES BURNS, Judge of said court.

14
15
16 _____
17 OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

18
19 Dated this 23rd day
20 of April, 2012.
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23
24