

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson 2016

11:07 am, December 20, 2016

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Ok, this is Tuesday December 20th, 2016. The time is now 11:07 am and this is Sergeant Kenneth Findlay with the Internal Affairs Unit this is a recorded interview with Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson who is a witness to Investigation 2016-733. Ok if you could give me your name unit number and date of hire and you go by Kenzie?"

(Cell phone ping)

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Yes, Kenzie, hired in September of 96."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Ok and you are a day shift dispatcher here at the Hammond Barracks?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Yes."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "And you've been here for over twenty years?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "I have."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Ok and you were before we go on record I just kind of covered what you did or didn't hear, and you've mentioned to me that you did hear Emma Loisel say on election day come out and say hey Mrs. Clinton just won Guam?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Yes."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Or she's leading in Guam."

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Yes, she came out and said, "hey, Hilliary just wone Guam."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Ok and before we get into the next couple days you said you didn't think that Lieutenant Campbell was part of that?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "I don't remember him being in the office when she said that um we were eatin' lunch, it was right around lunch time when she said it and um I, I, I Bill I know Bill, I think we were the only ones maybe Nancy, I, I don't even know."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Ok."

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "I don't remember him being in the office at the time."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "And that wasn't meant to be, it's just stating a fact almost as if it's hey it's sun shining outside?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Yeah, I don't think it was anything other than, you know everybody was keeping an eye on the tally and everything that was going on and I think it was just, 'hey, she just won Guam

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Ok and there was no secret on which side of the political isle Emma was vs Campbell, you knew she was a Clinton supporter, and he was a Trump supporter?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Yes, correct."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "And as we talked before, you knew pretty well kind where everybody stood?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Yeah for the most part we've all done a lot of talking before, leading up to it so we all kind of knew who liked who."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Yeah, ok, yup, which seemed to be when we talked before, seemed to be kind of common place throughout the workplace or the country.

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Right."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "You kind of knew if you liked this one, you probably didn't like this one.

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "I don't think there was any anyone on the fence with anything."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Yeah um so the day after the election you were working?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Uh huh."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: It was Wednesday the 9th and did you hear the lieutenant say to Emma, 'hey Emma were you out protesting or crying all night?' or something to that effect did you hear that?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "I did hear that."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "And was it meant to be, how did you take that comment?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "I don't think it was meant to be mean that was right after or during a conversation we were all having about watching the news and seeing everybody crying and sobbing and protesting and people we were just talking about how people were crazy and losing their minds, you know across the country, you know just talking about how everybody was just very upset and shocked about the news and, and that's when lieutenant said you know, "Emma you weren't up crying all night were you? You weren't one of those were you?' You know, so I didn't took it as a mean way. I think it was, 'hey you're a Hillary supporter too you weren't doing that were you,' that kind of thing?"

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Yeah and what, what did she respond on that day?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "I, I just, I don't remember exactly what, I think she said, 'no or no I wasn't' or something and that that's what I had heard."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "And was there anything else on the 9th that Wednesday was there much conversation between the two in relation to the political election?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "No, I think that, no I don't think anything else was said that day that I remember."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Yeah, the following day Thursday the 10th. That's a different story, correct?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Yes was an ugly day (laughing)."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "That was an ugly day and you're working again?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Uh huh."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "And you said you were at the Sedgwick barracks, that Thursday?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Yes. I was."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "And that's the one where your sitting, that's the one that's basically closest to the?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "It's closest to the door, closest to the hallway, your eyesight your line of sight's right there."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Yeah and you can kind of see in the sergeant's office and Emma's office is right to your right-hand side, right?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Yes."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "And what did you hear on that day?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Like I was telling you before, we hear bits and pieces when you're sitting desk, and somebody calls in. So, I don't, I didn't hear an extended part of the conversation, but I heard, you know lieutenant say something to Nancy about what are we going to do today or what are you going to do today are you going to make Hammond great again or something to that effect."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "And you knew that that was a, you took that as a political paraphrasing of a Trump slogan?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Right, right, and I, I don't know what was even said from Nancy or you know anything part of being closest to that too though we get a little muffled stuff a lot, so you don't hear. If Emma was to talk we don't hear a lot of what she says because a lot we turn to each other and say, 'what she say?' and you know she has a deeper voice, so I don't even know if there was a response to that or anything, but they were both in the hallway closest to the sergeants' office."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Ok and Emma said something, but you don't know exactly what it was?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "I don't, I don't know what she said."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Did she say something to respond to; you thought that it sounded it was a dig?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Er, uh yeah I think it was almost like a, I don't even know if it was a dig it was like you said more like a slogan like, you know I don't. I don't even know if

he was trying to be hurtful he was just making a joke cause right after the election we were all going let's make America great again and you know it was just."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Yeah."

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "It was one of those catch phrases that a lot of people saying, so you know."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Yeah and he um made that comment to Nancy Weiss?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "He did, yeah."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "And he called her Nay, Nay that's what you?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "We call her Nay, Nay."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Yeah and then, Emma said something and then what did the lieutenant do then?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Well I looked up and he was in the hallway and, and he talks with his hands a lot so he had his hands out and he was like, 'it's a joke Emma it was just a joke' and I don't know if she even commented or responded after that or right when he said that and that's when he started to walk away and as he walked away he walked back through the sergeants' office then I heard her Emma say F U."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "What, what exactly did she say?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "I'm sorry (giggle) she said fuck you."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "To the?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "To the lieutenant, well she said it out loud, well I'm assuming it's to him."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Yeah."

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "And um he turned around and walked, I saw him come back through the, the sergeants' office and through the hallway to her office."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Ok."

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "And he said, 'what did you say to me?' and he said it twice. He said, 'what did you just say to me?' and then the door shut and we didn't hear what was said after that. We heard elevated voices, yeah they were raising their voices. It wasn't screaming but it was it was more of a heated discussion."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Yeah."

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Of what we overheard and then he came out and nothing else was said."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "OK, now was he, now could you tell from his voice when she used when she said, 'fuck you' could you tell from his langu, his demeanor he was upset?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "I think he was more shocked at first."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: (Laughs, clears his throat.) Yeah, ok."

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "I don't think that's something that we've ever heard here somebody talking to, you know, a barracks commander or one of the sergeants or supervisor in that manner. Meaning, uh like to be meanful like that you know."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Yeah."

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "You, you hear some of the guys jab at each other or whatever, but I think it was more shock like, 'what did you just say to me?' And it probably turned to anger, you know, or upset. After that, but at first it was like 'wha, wha what did she just say to me?' you know that kind of thing."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "And you heard what she said was it 100% plain or 80% plain?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Uh, 85 percent plain I'd say."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Could it have been fuck this?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "I don't I, I don't think it was that it was."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "You heard."

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "I heard, yeah 'fuck you,' yeah."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Um, and after that was there, did you hear her say when they went into the office you said it before it wasn't a screaming match, but it was a heated discussion?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "It was heated, yeah it was, you could tell he was upset and she was upset I mean you could hear both voices and they were all muffled I mean we didn't know what was being said."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Because the door was closed."

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "It was, yeah."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Now when she said, when she said, did you hear him say, 'you know Emma it was a joke if you don't want to listen to it you can.'"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "I didn't hear that part."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "You didn't hear that?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "I didn't, but like I said I hear bits and pieces of everything you know, so."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Because you were, you were at working as."

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "If somebody talks on the radio even from a different frequency we usually miss a few. Even if the sergeants will yell from the back office or something or they'll ask us to do something. If somebody talks on the radio it muffles out anything that anybody else said for a second."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Because that is your primary focus is the dispatch?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "If he has said that I didn't hear it."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Now, did you, did you take um. Before, you know, we, I mentioned like the old taboo conversations were religion, politics and money and whatever."

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Right."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Could you have taken before, or see where his comments could have made Emma upset?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "I think so, yeah. Um, she's an emotional person like where she, she would get upset about that, so I mean we talked before we, we knew her feelings even up at the front desk. We try not to say anything too loud or something, we try to

respect people's feelings you know, it came out, it was a big election. It was a big thing going on in the country people talk about it you know it was.”

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: “Yeah, like you said before, you knew one way or another, you knew who.”

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: “We did.”

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: “Who was supporting who.”

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: “Well, yeah, we have another dispatcher who is a very pro Hillary Clinton supporter and we knew it, you know, we didn’t down on anybody just because we were a certain way and they were not or whatever. There was some people here that were on either side. It’s, you know, like we said it’s part of democracy, but nobody ever tried to alienate anybody for it either, you know.

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: “Yeah, now the um so do you think that his comments on the day after the election and talking to Nancy on the Thursday on the ninth do you think his comments were out of line?”

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: “Um, I don't think so. I mean I didn't take ‘em as out of line. I took them as like I said it was one of those catch phrases that we were all kind of saying; you know we're going to make America great again and that I don't think he was meaning to be mean I don't know how to say it. I don't think he was trying to be mean about it, you know. I just think it was just one of those catch phrases that we were all saying for a while or everybody in the country was saying and, and he said it to Nancy, and I think she took offense to it.”

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: “Emma?”

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: “Emm, I'm sorry and it just escalated from there, but I don't think he was trying to do a, you know pointing the finger at her or just say, ‘we're going to make America,’ great kind I, I don't think. It was just a small comment that was taken way out of proportion.”

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "OK and do you think that her comments were out of line?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "I do."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "You do?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Yes, I do."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Now, do you think his response to her comments was inappropriate like to go into her office cause he was obviously mad you could tell when he went in there like, 'what did you say to me?'"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Yeah well I, I guess I want, want to say not knowing what was said in the office I would say no they weren't inappropriate. I think as a barracks commander and a supervisor you expect respect um I would never and I'm friends with the sergeants and the lieutenant, you know we hang out and all that kind of stuff I would never respond to one of my supervisors in that way. If I had a problem I'd say we need to have a talk, you know, we need to sit down and I don't think I would ever blow up like that and I think he doing the 'what did you say to me?' was more shock than a mad at first so I think that he was, you know, I think that was appropriate like 'what did you just say to me?' but like I said I don't know what was said in the office. It could gone escalated from there, but from what I just heard from 'what did you say to me?' I didn't think that was out of line, I think he should respect some, you know, he has authority here and expect some respect."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Yeah and after that was gone did you see Sergeant Martin go in talk to Emma?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "I did, yeah."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "And you said it seemed like, did it seem like he was able to kind of deescalate the situation?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Yeah, when he came out I kind of looked at him like, you know, gave him that look is everything good and he just shook his head, yep, you know, everything's fine and Emma came out and I think grabbed some subpoenas and I, we just, everybody just went, went about their day so I took it that everything was fine."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Ok is there anything else that you would like to add?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Um, no I mean I don't know if this is part of investigation or anything. I think it was the next day after that or maybe it was the same day, I don't even remember where she came out and they told her to go to District, District Headquarters. Um I guess Lieutenant or Thompson or Lamberth, I, I don't even know who was on the phone but they said, 'we need you down at District' and she came out and told me and Julia, she said, 'I want you two to be my witness that I'm being taken away from this building against my will,' and we just kind of looked at her like 'what?' Well, I guess that they said that she needed to be down at District and, and Sergeant Martin was going to take her down there."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Ok."

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "So, she, she mentioned that to Julia and I that you guys are my witness that I am being taken against my will so."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Ok and that's when they'd requested her meeting with her down at the district headquarters?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Yeah, I don't even know if it was that same day that it happened or if it was the next day, I think it was the next day."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "I believe you're right."

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "I think it was the next day."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Yeah I heard that one except one time before during Sergeant Martin's interview that he had said he took her down the following day and it was it was a civil car ride."

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Yeah I think it was he Sergeant Martin. He has a, a way about him that he people feel calm, comfortable around him you know so he, he was able to do that with no problem yeah. So, she just told us up there that we were going to be witnesses to them taking her or something."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "But she didn't want to go?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "She did not want to go."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "And the um, in relation to since then has everything been business as normal here at Hammond?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "It is, yeah."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Everybody's getting along ok?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Everybody, yeah I mean she comes out and says good morning to us, and we say good morning too. She has to come out to our area to get subpoenas and court paperwork and there's no issues."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "And her and the lieutenant are getting along ok?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Yeah I mean I've heard him talking about orders I, I think she's just put an order in last week or something for some stuff and supplies. I think that they've been working fine together from what I see."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Yeah, and do you see this as a major stumbling block, or do you think that this incident can be turned into a positive thing?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "I think that it's a positive thing. I mean I don't think that it's, I've been here for many years, and it takes a whole heck of a lot more to turn this place inside out and you know I think that this was just one of those things that happens."

(Audible voice in the background)

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Like I mentioned to you before, we're kind of like a family here, family's fight, things happen."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Things happen."

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "And you know I've haven't always agreed with things that's gone on, and I've had my tussles with people. I mean you just move on; it's part of being a family, it's part of being life and I don't see it being a big deal. I mean I shouldn't say a big deal, I it was a big deal at the moment, but I think everybody's moved on from that, you know, it was fine."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Ok, anything else?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "I'm good."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "You're good ok. Ok McKenzie is everything you told me true and factual?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Yes."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Ok at this time I issue the order not to discuss this I.A. with anybody else so we don't compromise its integrity."

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Ok."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Understood?"

Dispatcher McKenzie Pearson: "Understood."

Sergeant Kenneth Findlay: "Ok the time is now 11:25 and I will conclude the interview."