

1 **TRANSCRIPT OF TAPED INTERVIEW OF ROZZIE FRANCO**

2 **CONDUCTED BY CORPORAL YURI MELICH**

3 **CASE NUMBER 08-069208**

4 **RECORDED SEPTEMBER 11, 2008**

5 **TYPED MARCH 5, 2010**

6 **CM – CORPORAL YURI MELICH**

7 **SA – SERGEANT JOHN ALLEN**

8 **RF – ROZZIE FRANCO**

9

10 **The date right now is September 11, 2008, time right now is 1619 hours. I'm**
11 **Detective Melich with the Orange County Sheriff's Office. Reference to Orange**
12 **County Case number 08-069208. I am at the Orange County Central Operations**
13 **Complex with Sergeant John Allen. I'm also present with a Rozzie Franco.**

14 CM Rozzie, are you aware this is being recorded?

15 RF Yes.

16 CM Any objection to that?

17 RF No.

18 CM Okay. Rozzie, would you please state your name and date of birth for the
19 record?

20 RF Rozzie L. Franco, [REDACTED]

21 CM Okay. Rozzie, I got a message from one of PIO's suggesting I call you that you
22 had information on this Caylee Anthony case. I called you at the [REDACTED]
23 [REDACTED] number. And ah, you explained that you had dinner at a restaurant with
24 someone and you overheard something. Could you kind of go over that with me
25 again? What you heard and where you were and when this was?

1 RF Sure, that's correct. I had lunch about two Fridays ago. I believe it was August
2 29th, with my boyfriend, David and we sat down and we ordered and we began
3 talking about the Caylee Anthony Case. Which is something we often do. And
4 as we were talking our waitress came over and said, "Are you guys talking about
5 Caylee Anthony?" Ah, she kind of interrupted us a little bit in a very nice way.
6 And um, I said, "Yes we are." And ah, I said, "You know what are your thoughts
7 on that?" And she said, "Well, Mallory works here and Mallory is the fiancé of
8 Lee Anthony." Lee Anthony is the brother of Casey Anthony. And she said, that
9 Mallory pretty much told her that Casey killed Caylee. And she's sure that she
10 did it. And she also said, that Mallory.. and I said to her, "Why would you say
11 that?" And she said, "Because Mallory said basically the way she acts she's a
12 pathological liar and they never doubted, Lee and Mallory never doubted that
13 Casey did do something to Caylee.

14 CM Now when you say that um, Mallory told.. I'm sorry, well first of off let's back up.
15 What's David's last name? Your Boyfriend?

16 RF Oh, Portwood.

17 CM P-O-...

18 RF P-O-R-T-W-O-O-D.

19 CM And the restaurant you went to was?

20 RF Houston's in Winter Park.

21 CM Is that the one on Orange avenue?

22 RF Do you want me to give you the address?

23 CM Is it, [REDACTED] by chance?

24 RF Um, hold on I have I in my...

25 CM Or [REDACTED] Ave.?

1 RF I have it here 'cause I had it texted to me hold on.

2 CM Okay.

3 RF I'll give you the exact address. Oh no they didn't give me an exact address. It's
4 Houston's Restaurant in Winter Park, Florida. The number there is [REDACTED]

5 [REDACTED]

6 CM Okay and the waitress' name, did you get the waitress' name there?

7 RF When I called back, I couldn't remember her name, but when I called back over
8 and I talked to a hostess that was there and I described her to a T. And I
9 remembered during the conversation because we were talking about children.
10 And, and she was saying she couldn't even fathom that a mother would do that
11 to her children, that she had two young boys. She was in her mid twenties. So,
12 when I described that back to the hostess. She said, "Oh that must be Heidi."

13 CM You jump...

14 RF So, I'm assuming Heidi is her name.

15 CM You jump, you jumped ahead just a little bit.

16 RF Okay.

17 CM When you mentioned.. you give a description of Heidi. What was the description
18 you gave.. what did you recall Heidi looked like? And you said something about
19 her...

20 RF Heidi ...

21 CM ...children.

22 RFHeidi was about I'm guessing 5'-6", 5'-7" um, I... either she has light brown
23 eyes or blue eyes. And she had naturally blonde hair it was pulled back. So, I'm
24 not sure if it was shoulder length or a little longer, it was pulled back. She's a
25 slender build, semi athletic.

- 1 CM Did you say.. did she say that ah, she had any children?
- 2 RF She did say she had children. She said she had two boys.
- 3 CM Did she say if she attended the university or college?
- 4 RF Yes and I want to say Everett University, but I'm not sure, I'm not sure.
- 5 CM Now want to go back to what Heidi said. She said that Mallory told her that
- 6 Casey killed Caylee. Did she say it specifically...
- 7 RF She...
- 8 CM ... that way or how...
- 9 RF No she didn't say it specifically...
- 10 CM How?
- 11 RF ... that way...
- 12 CM That's a...
- 13 RF ... because that's a pretty strong statement. Um, the way she said it was, let me
- 14 see... (Inaudible).. She... um, well now you've kind of thrown me off. I'm trying
- 15 to think about the conversation. Mallory said, Mallory said, "I'm sure she did
- 16 something to Caylee. I'm sure she killed.. I'm sure she killed the girl." That's
- 17 what she said, "I'm sure she killed the girl." Not.. I'm not.. she did not say, Casey
- 18 killed Caylee. She said, I'm, sure she killed the girl.
- 19 CM So, Mallory told Heidi, who told you quote, "I'm sure she killed the girl."
- 20 RF Right.
- 21 CM And did she say how or, or any other de... did you ask? Obviously this comes up
- 22 at the dinner conversation.
- 23 SA (Inaudible)... Right
- 24 CM What.. you guys ask (Inaudible)...
- 25

1 RF No, I didn't ask, I didn't want to seem like a reporter. Because I'll tell you right
2 then when she made that statement. I determined right then I was going to come
3 back and I was gonna sit in Mallory's section. And then I was going to poke and
4 prod a little bit more. That's why I did not want to, I did not want...

5 SA Right.

6 RF ... to seem like a reporter. Because people catch onto those things.

7 SA Sure. Sure.

8 CM Did you ask prior to leaving, you know you said something on the phone about
9 prior to leaving you asked to be seated in Mallory's section? Or asked about
10 Mallory before you left? Tell me about that.

11 RF Okay. As we were leaving I told David I said, "You know what we should do is
12 come back and sit in Mallory's section." "And then just kind of start talking about
13 the case like we did here. I'm sure it'll peak her interest..."

14 SA Right.

15 RF ... and then maybe we we'll get some more information."

16 SA Right.

17 RF So, I.. I talked to the hostess and she was like, "Have a great night." And I was
18 like, "Quick question, um, when does Mallory work?" "'Cause we'd love to sit in
19 her section?" I haven't seen her in a long time." You know just guessing.

20 SA Right.

21 RF And then she said, "Oh Mallory's not with us any longer. And she's a hostess." I
22 go, "Right, right, right. That's what I meant I just wanted to say hi to her..."

23 SA Right.

24 RF ... no big deal." And she said, "Yeah, she quit a long... a little while ago." So..

25

1 CM Did ah, Heidi say anything about how she knew Mallory aside from work or was
2 it...

3 RF No.

4 CM ...just through work?

5 RF She only knew her from work.

6 CM She mentioned that, anything else about the Caylee Anthony Case while she
7 was serving you (Inaudible)...

8 RF Yes we talked extensively about it. She was saying.. oh, I'm glad you said that.
9 You just jogged my memory. Um, she was saying... 'cause I kept asking her, her
10 thoughts okay. And she was saying 'cause she's a psychology major. And she
11 was saying that her psychologist or her professor rather said that, she.. they..
12 she believes she killed her. Heidi believes she killed her because her professor
13 said that it was case where she accidentally purposely killed her. And I said,
14 "Okay well what does that mean?" And she goes, "Because she's highly
15 narcissistic." And I'm like, "Okay, explain that." And she said, "Well what's
16 different is when I take pictures of my children, this is Heidi speaking. She said,
17 "When I take pictures of my children I'm never in the pictures." I take pictures of
18 my children."

19 SA Right.

20 RF "And with Casey, she's almost in all the pictures. Like, Hey look at me, look at
21 me."

22 SA Right.

23 RF You know. I get all the attention here's my baby and me. And that was what
24 happened in that particular part of the conversation. And she was saying how
25 her professor believed that the um, that Casey did.. did something to Caylee.

- 1 CM Now you also mentioned a phone call that you had earlier this afternoon with ah,
2 an individual that confirmed who Mallory was. Can you tell me a little bit about
3 the phone call?
- 4 RF Right. I called over to Houston's and I said, um, alright and this is.. I'm glad you
5 asked me that to. I called over to Houston's and I said, I wanted to know how...
6 where Mallory was working. I said, I know Mallory from here, from Houston's.
7 And I'd like to know where she's working at now 'cause I'd like to go see her.
8 And then she said, "Oh I don't, I don't know where she's working. I don't think
9 she's working. And I'm like, "Do you know what she's doing now?" And she
10 said, "She went back to school." And I said, "Oh she did great for her. Where did
11 she go, UCF?" And she said, Um, I think it's like a part of UCF um, not Rollins,
12 but like ah, it starts with an R. It's like a part of UCF it's like some kind of
13 program. I don't know. I don't know it was some kind of program.
- 14 SA Uh-huh. (Affirmative)
- 15 RF It's a it's.. it's associated with UCF. So, and then I asked her, her last name and
16 um, I could... I said, "I cant' remember her last name what is it? Cause I really
17 need to find her?" And she's like, "Parker."
- 18 CM What about another phone call you had with ah, a certain flamboyant individual
19 about Mallory? You said you talked to someone earlier today? Leonard Padilla
20 maybe? Did you say you called Leonard and...
- 21 RF That was off the record.
- 22 SA Yeah but if.. if it's information that ...
- 23 RF I mean I.. I..
- 24 CM If it...
- 25 RF ...I will talk to you um...

1 CM The only reason I'm bringing it up now is 'cause I have to explain why it took two
2 weeks to get the information. And if the conversation happened today you know
3 that's kind of.. that.. that kind of explains to us why it took two weeks to get you
4 know information to us. So, I don't mean to jam you up.

5 SA Yeah.

6 CM But it's...

7 RF Okay um, having said that, you know I can, I can tell you well, my intention was
8 to say that I had a source. I didn't want to say it was Padilla because I don't want
9 to put him on the record.

10 SA Right.

11 RF Um...

12 SA But I think he's, I think he's certainly been on the record on a number if...

13 CM Yeah..

14 SA ...he's.. he's ...

15 RF Well it's not really Padilla it's Padilla that I called, but it was Tracy...

16 CM Right.

17 RF ... that I got the information from.

18 SA I got you okay.

19 RF So, I mean I don't mind talking about it, but I'd... I'd.. I mean how can we not...

20 SA Okay, I can say it's a source I guess.

21 RF How can we not put her name in there?

22 CM Hm.

23 RF Because once I tell them as a reporter that I cannot, that I will not put them on
24 record.

25 SA Right.

1 RF I can't do that.

2 SA I got you.

3 RF Now I can tell you guys that off the record.

4 SA Right.

5 RF But...

6 CM Have you ever um, out of curiosity had you ever met Heidi before you went to
7 Houston's with David that night?

8 RF That was the afternoon, we had an afternoon dinner. We have afternoon dinners
9 on.. I mean early dinners on Fridays.

10 CM About what time were you there?

11 RF Oh God...

12 CM You said lunch runs in (Inaudible)...

13 RF He got out early and we had a late lunch. So, I want to say about.. God I want to
14 say like 2 or 3. I may be wrong on that. Because he might've gotten out,.. It
15 had to be between 3 and 5. Sorry I don't know the exact time.

16 SA Yeah.

17 CM That's fine.

18 RF Yeah it had to ...

19 CM (Inaudible)...

20 RF ...be around that time 'cause David I think he might've gotten out early. We, we
21 always go to beach house on Fridays.

22 CM No problem.

23 RF And we always go get something to eat on Fridays. So, we wanted to try
24 something new we went to Houston's.

25

1 CM Have you told anyone else ah, either law enforcement or outside law
2 enforcement?
3 RF No.
4 CM About the conversation with Heidi?
5 RF No.
6 CM Alright.
7 RF I thought, it went just right over my head. Because I, I had heard so many people
8 and their silly theories from the drivers to the you know the reporting gigs from
9 the grocery store to I'm just.. I so sick of everyone's theory.
10 CM Do you know if David might've spoke to anyone outside?
11 RF On no, he's a busy man. The only, the only person he talks to is me about that
12 particular...
13 SA Hm.
14 RF Maybe his mother Harlene, but he would not have mentioned that. I mean it's..
15 it's insignificant to his life basically.
16 SA Right.
17 CM And ah, you said David was gonna reach out and to us later and...
18 RF Yes um, I left him a message I know he's in and out of meetings.
19 CM Okay. Um, I won't bother him in a meeting but in case I don't hear form him in a
20 day or two is there a number I can...
21 RF Did you want me to call...
22 CM ...reach...
23 RFhim (Inaudible)...
24 CM Well let's wait until we're done with this.
25 RF Oh yeah okay I'll call him.

- 1 CM But ah, is there ah, is there a number I can reach him at if I don't hear from him in
2 a day or two?
- 3 RF Sure I'll give you the number.
- 4 CM Alright we'll get it of that then.
- 5 RF Yeah he doesn't mind at all.
- 6 CM Okay. John?
- 7 SA Um, did you ever have ah, with ah, did the waitress ever say that Mallory ever
8 had conversation with Casey about this?
- 9 RF About this specific...?
- 10 SA Right.
- 11 RF No she didn't say that, but she did say they did interact. And she also said about
12 Casey I think I might've already mentioned this. That Casey's demeanor...
13 excuse me. Was that she stole, we all know that.
- 14 SA Yeah.
- 15 RF But that's words from Mallory. She stole, she lied and she didn't doubt that she
16 did something to the child. That she might've killed the child.
- 17 SA But she.. but.. but ah, but she never.. Heidi never told you that Mallory told her
18 that Casey had knowledge of something happened?
- 19 RF No.
- 20 SA Okay. Alright.
- 21 CM So, Casey never told Mallory, I killed my kid or something like that?
- 22 RF Right, no.
- 23 SA Right.
- 24 RF No.
- 25 CM She didn't say that, Mallory believes that that happened?

1 RF Yes.

2 CM Okay.

3 RF Yes.

4 CM There's a big difference between that and Mallory actually ...

5 RF Right.

6 CMCasey actually telling Mallory...

7 RF Absolutely. Absolutely. Now um, she did say that Mallory be.. and Lee both
8 believe it. So, that's.. I think that's pretty big.

9 SA Sure.

10 RF I mean ...

11 SA Yeah we just to go and talk to them. Alright.

12 RF I mean I don't mind you guys can keep... if you got anything else to ask.

13 CM I think that's about it. I just.. Again just to confirm though, when, when Heidi told
14 you Hey, I know Mallory she works here. She's Lee's fiancé, Mallory told you
15 guys that Casey killed Caylee. She didn't actually say Mallory... she didn't say,
16 hey Mallory told me that she spoke to Casey and Casey admitted to killing...

17 RF No. No.

18 CM She didn't say... she said Mallory had a theory ...

19 RF Beliefs.

20 CM Or beliefs.

21 RF Right.

22 CM Never specifically said, Casey came to me and confessed to me?

23 RF No. Let, let me, let me, let me make this extremely clear so, we're not ...

24 SA Right.

25

- 1 RF So, we're.. so nothing's gray here . I want this black and white. Um, and this
2 was two weeks ago. Okay, Heidi says to me, Mallory.. Mallory knows Casey did
3 something to Caylee. I'm.. and she's sure that she killed Caylee.
- 4 CM Okay.
- 5 RF That's the closest I can come.
- 6 CM Okay.
- 7 RF I know the word kill was in there. Um, I know.. and I know the words um, Mallory
8 believes, not believes. Mallory said.
- 9 CM Uh-huh. (Affirmative)
- 10 RF Yes, yes, yes those were her words. Um, I know this, I know this she says,
11 because Mallory has told me that Casey killed Caylee. That Casey has done
12 something to Caylee. Those two sentences did come out of her mouth and the
13 word kill was used. And also um, oh God what else did she say. She said she
14 started mentioning the shovel, she started mentioning the gas cans. And I don't
15 know how relevant that is to the case. I mean that's...
- 16 CM Did ...
- 17 SA What did she say about the shovel? Do you remember?
- 18 RF She was saying that all she said was, based on everything that she's heard as
19 far as the shovel um, the gas cans. I mean she did it.
- 20 SA But he didn't hear anything from Casey? This is all..
- 21 RF Right.
- 22 SA Okay.
- 23 RF Right. I.. let me be clear. There is ... there was nothing indicated to me...
- 24 SA I got you.
- 25 RF ...that she heard that from Casey. She heard that from Mallory.

1 SA Okay.

2 RF Yes.

3 SA But did Mal.. but Mallory never heard this from Casey? Mallory never heard
4 Casey say anything about the shovel?

5 RF I've never spoken to Mallory so I.. I don't know that.

6 SA Heidi never told you that though?

7 RF Heidi never told me that Mal... that Casey told Mallory that.

8 SA I got you. Okay that's what we need.

9 RF I was thinking when I was thinking of calling you guys I was thinking that the best
10 thing for you guys in the investigation is to have Mallory sitting here grilling her
11 about it. You know maybe she can help you guys. Because I mean there's a
12 difference between you know wanting to protect your fiancé and being
13 implicated. You know and protecting your own rights.

14 SA Right.

15 RF So, I was just thinking that I can help you guys out with that tip. Um, maybe
16 putting the pressure a little bit on Mallory and say, hey listen, you know your
17 buddy Heidi said that you knew that, that Casey killed Caylee. So, you know ...

18 SA Okay.

19 RF ...we've got a witness here.

20 SA Alright.

21 RF And if Heidi resends her statement I'll tell you David and I will tell you straight up
22 that's.. it's not true. We were right there.

23 SA Okay. Well we need to ... alright.

24 CM Anything else?

25 RF And if you...

1 SA That's it.

2 RF ,...need David then you know we'll,...

3 SA Yeah well we'll need to talk to him.

4 RF be more then happy to... Yeah.

5 SA Yeah.

6 CM Yah we'll get his number as soon as I turn this off.

7 RF Sure.

8 CM Um, can you raise your right hand for.

9 RF Sure.

10 CM Do you swear and affirm everything you just told me is the truth?

11 RF I do.

12 CM Okay. Thanks.

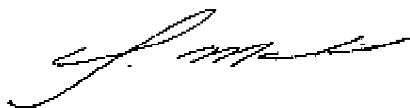
13 **THIS TRANSCRIPT HAS BEEN REVIEWED FOR ACCURACY**

14 Signed this 9th day of March, 2010.

15

16

17



18

CORPORAL YURI MELICH, OCSO DEPUTY SHERIFF

19

20

21

22

23

24

25