

TRANSCRIPT OF [REDACTED] ON JUNE 25, 2007

C I'm just going to start off by saying today is June 25, 2007, and I am Chuck Smrt, and I am here in the, what village am I in?

A This is Tafuna.

C Okay. Why don't you go ahead and just state your full name for the record.

A My name is [REDACTED], and my son is [REDACTED].

C Okay, and also here is...

S This is Scott Donald from CIF.

C Okay, and you understand Mr. [REDACTED] that we're tape-recording our conversation?

A Yes I do.

C Tell me about the situation.

A See, I didn't know anything until that lady named uh, I forgot the name of the lady. She works for the Human Resources in government American Samoa. So, I think she approached my wife about my son, [REDACTED], because they are some kids already take them to United States for school. So, my wife came and approached me about [REDACTED] to go to the 12th grade in California, Franklin High School. So, my son was not wanting to go, but the only reason I was thinking because missing 11th grade and he would be going to the 12th grade, and I was thinking he get a chance for good competition because it is a big competition for the kids, so we didn't make ___ 12th grade, he make the ___ on the first week and also the principal, so that's the thought I was thinking of ___ to go to school at Franklin, but we had a meeting with the lady in Kentucky Fried Chicken; a meeting with the lady and my wife and then she explained how my son would be going to school ___. This man would pay for the fare up to go up there, to go over to California for the registration, so I think when we went to California, they only pay for my fare, but not my wife. So, we went to California. They paid for both of our fare from LA to California and they pick us up to go there. We spend one night in the hotel and then we went to the registration and then we left the same day. So, we only spend one night and they paid for those expenses. So, it's not the school that's paying, but this guy named Tuisospo. I think he's the one who paid for, I heard he's trying to help some kids here, so that's why that I think, where is this friend, he's the two years of NFL, play it before. So, that's how that guy, his nephew, Jeff, and the other, the son, the sister over here. So, I think really he's working with those two guys, then went by the house and ___ these two guys look after, so I think ___, I don't know because I'm ___, I wasn't there.

C The lady that came to see you, at the KFC, tell me more about that lady, who that lady is?

A That lady is the mother of these two kids, Jeff and the other, I forgot the name of the other brother. So, those are the kids, Jeff is working for that man now, Verner, or something like that. So, he's the one who contacted his mother and to contact the kids.

C How many conversations did you have with that lady prior to [REDACTED] going over?

A We'd only had one conversation on that day. But, I forgot somewhere around June, I think June 2005, so that's why I ask my son, because he didn't want to go, but I asked my son it is a good chance for you to have a good ___ because it is a big competition in California and over here in American Samoa. So, that's the reason why I want to send my son, because my didn't want to go. Then, the graduation, she said she would pay for our fare to go to the graduation. Then, she changed her mind and she said not enough money, so we both flew out there and we went, and she turned

around and said okay, my son we'll pay for your trip. We'll pick it up the ___ over there _____ in school. So, we went to the graduation because one of our children from Fresno State and then on May 20, and then we wait for my son's graduation on the 4th of June last year. So, we went to the graduation with his friend and I at the graduation, we weren't speaking to people and my son was not happy because most of the ____, these kids didn't do it for him. So, because they made a lot of promises they said, well, two other kids in the school and sometimes my son was complaining because sometime he was late to school because of transportation. You have a good chance to talk to my son if you want to talk to him because he's the one who was there.

C We'll probably do that. When the lady talked to you at the KFC or at other times, what promises did she make?

A Well, she promise we'll provide everything, the fare, the school, even the school, and transportation, the housing, everything. So, that's why I was thinking it's better for me to send my son over for the competition as I told you before. So, that's the reason why.

C What did she say about airfare, did she talk about airfare?

A Yeah, she said she would pay for the parents to get there to go over for the registration and also the graduation. So, she pay for one airfare for us, just for me, but not my wife and then when we went to the graduation, we pay our own fare and then we went there and we talked to her son, Jeff. She said we'll pay. After waiting for I think two weeks and she didn't pay or anything, so we ended up calling Jeff, I mean, Verner, so I think we're _____ and then he transferred the money to my account because I had eye surgery at that time in California and we needed the money for the medical treatment. So, that's the, you can talk to my son, _____, and he will explain, because he's a smart kid. They didn't do a lot of things they promised to do and then my son, I was mad at him because he didn't apply a lot of schools. He did not send letters because he said not enough money to buy stamp, so I was mad because he's supposed to call us, we can send money to him to send this letter.

C Sure, sure.

A And this ___ to their phone, but I was going to, you know, I was so mad, I couldn't have been good thing for the kids. But between me and this lady's son, he's not doing the job, and I don't think Verner knows that. But I know he helps the kids, like low income kids.

C Sure. Well, let's talk about that graduation because we're kind of on that right now. You said that she said early on, before your son went over, that both parents would be able to go to graduation?

A Yes.

C Okay.

A The parents would pay for the airfare, the round-trip to go to the graduation.

C So, when you went, did you leave here to go to the Fresno State graduation?

A Yes.

C So you went to Fresno, and then you went to Stockton for graduation?

A Yes, because my daughter graduate on the 20th from Fresno, so we left here on the 18th. And then my daughter graduated on the 20th of May and my son would graduate on the 4th of June. So, it's almost two weeks between, the first two weeks.

C Before you left, who did you talk to about paying for graduation?

A I talked to the lady.

- C You talked to the lady?
- A Because this lady here, the name of the lady is Eleimanu. I don't know what the last name is, Mauga, or, but that's the name of the lady, Eleimanu.
- C What did you talk about with Eleimanu?
- A Well, I talked to her about airfare because the graduation is coming very soon and she ended up saying she had not enough money to pay for the airfare, but I was kind of mad because before she promised that the first time we met, that's why we said it, because we need to be there on my son's graduation. And then for the time we asked for the ticket, she said not enough money. And then the next day, when I call, she said you just go over there and Jeff will reimburse you of the ticket over there.
- C So, you talked to her one day and then you call her back the next day?
- A No, I think, I'm not so sure it's the following day or following week because I don't remember, it's been awhile.
- C So, what happened, what changed her mind?
- A Well, we need to go to my daughter's graduation. We left on the 18th, but I was thinking the same time to call ___ and then we can go to my son's graduation.
- C Yeah, I understand that. You said that you called her and she said, "I can't help you" because there's not enough money.
- A There's not enough money.
- C And then you called her back a few days later?
- A Yeah, and she said to go over to California for the graduation and then they will reimburse my airfare ticket.
- C Okay. So, you went over there, did you talk to anybody over there about getting reimbursed?
- A Yes.
- C Who did you talk to?
- A My wife talked to Jeff, that's her son, but she was over there with her husband to the graduation, too.
- S Eleimanu was there?
- A Yeah, Eleimanu was there and her husband was there, too, on the graduation date.
- S What's her husband's name?
- A I think that's the last name Mauga, or something, I'm not so sure, but the husband, I think he retired because he work for the government.
- C Okay. So, you talked, your wife talks with Jeff about the ticket, what does Jeff say?
- A Jeff said we will put in our account in 16 days. We keep on checking the account. There's no money there, so we end calling to Verner and then Verner said we'll put the money in the account.

- C Who called Verner?
- A My wife called Verner because we needed the money for the medical check up.
- C And how much money went into the account?
- A I think it's \$1,500 or something...the round-trip ticket for me to LA and come back.
- C So that was, in essence, one person's ticket?
- A Yes, just for myself, but not for my wife.
- C You had paid for both up front? You had paid for both tickets?
- A Yes.
- C And you got reimbursed \$1,300 or so.
- A There's only one round-trip ticket.
- C What type of account did it go into?
- A Because we use my sister-in-law's account in _____, the one who lives in uh...
- S Torrence?
- A Torrence, yeah. She live in Torrence. So, we use the account so Jeff can transfer the money and then she can take it out and give it to us, because our accounts here is in the _____.
- C Okay, so you didn't talk to Verner about that, your wife did?
- A No, my wife did.
- C Did you ever talk to Verner about any type of money situation?
- A No. I never talk to Verner, only my wife talk to him. We did talk to Verner, the only time we met him during the registration because Verner was there at registration. So, that's the only time I talk to Verner. I think July or August 2005.
- C Okay, so that was your first trip and that's when, who went on that first trip in July?
- A In July? Me and my wife, but they only pay for one round-trip ticket just for myself.
- C Okay, and what about for your son?
- A No, my son, because he left first before us, so they pay for my son's ticket to California.
- C Okay. On the son's ticket, how did that work, how did he get the ticket?
- A This lady here, we contacted the lady and she said they pay for the ticket, electronic ticket over at the airport, so we just go and check in. They make all the arrangements, and we didn't do it.
- C Okay, so when did he leave, about what time period did he leave?
- A I think he left late June. I think that's the time he left after school, when the school out, that's the time he left.

- C And the parents, you guys went over when?
- A I think we left on July. Late July.
- C Okay. They paid for your ticket?
- A They paid for my ticket, but not for my wife.
- C And you flew from LA...
- A From LA to Sacramento, they paid for both flights and also one night at the motel.
- C I want to make sure I understand, so you were in LA when you flew to Sacramento?
- A Yes.
- C And from here over to LA, did you have to pay for that, for you and your wife?
- A No. She pay for my round-trip ticket, but we pay for my wife for here to LA and from there.
- C So, they paid from here to LA and back for you?
- A Yes.
- C Okay. And then they did not pay for your wife for that?
- A Nope. From here to LA, they didn't pay...
- C And then from LA to Sacramento, who paid?
- A This guy paid for both of us. Round-trip ticket.
- C And who did you talk to about arranging for those tickets?
- A My wife talked to this guy, Jeff. He's the contact person over there, at least the one whose paying for the kids.
- C Okay. That night you were there for registration, where did you stay?
- A You see, I don't know the name of the hotel we stayed, but because they came and picked us up at the airport and then this guy, Jeff, and older brother, Jeff's brother, and they drove us to the hotel and then we spend the night with my son and then the next day, we went to school for the registration. They pick us up and then we went for the registration. So, after registration, and then we went to supper and then come back to LA.
- C Okay. Who paid for that lodging at the hotel?
- A They pay for the hotel, too. One night.
- C Okay. And what about your meals while you were there?
- A I didn't have any meal over there when I was in hotel. I also, after registration, I invite some of the kids and their parents to go for lunch, so I pay for it. I pay for the lunch, some of the Samoan kids, they and also their parents.
- C Some of the parents were there when you were there for registration?

- A Yes.
- C Who was there?
- A I don't remember the name of the man, but this man, his son's name is, [REDACTED] knows everything, because he's the one who bring them up, but I know that it was son and the father, they came to the lunch and the other kids, but I think he was the only parent that was there. They sat on upper seat of football field, the high school football field.
- C Would you know the name, could it be [REDACTED]?
- S [REDACTED]?
- C [REDACTED]?
- A I think that's the one. [REDACTED], yeah, [REDACTED] father. That's right. So, he's the one we had lunch, because I invite them to come and have lunch with us and then I pay for it.
- C Tell me what happens at registration.
- A Well, nothing happened. The kids just went in and register because Verner was there at the register's office. So...
- C Did you fill out anything yourself?
- A My wife did, you know. If they ask for any information, my wife always talks.
- C Did you or your wife go to any utility companies while you were there?
- A What, utility company?
- C Yeah, during the day you registered?
- A I don't think so. Because after registration at the high school, so I invite them to go for lunch, so we went for lunch and after lunch, we went to the airport.
- C And you flew then back to...
- A LA.
- C to LA." Okay. And your son stayed with whom while he was there for that year?
- A Where he stay with that guy Jeff and other kids like [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] and I forgot the name of the other fellow Samoan kids.
- C Did he stay at the same place the whole year?
- A He stay at the same place and after, I think after six months, they move to another house. They sleep with kids at another house.
- C Did [REDACTED] go to the other, did he stay in the original house or go to the next one?
- A He went to the other house.
- C Did you ever pay Jeff anything for the lodging?
- A No, I didn't pay anything.

- C What about, did you ever pay for any clothes for your son.
- A Well, yes, I pay for the clothes and the shoes. I think one time he go over to LA and spend money, \$500, for yellow shoes and pants. He knows everything I do, because we went to the mall and buy those stuff he needs before we went to Franklin.
- C And what about, did you ever send him any spending money?
- A If he ask for money, we send money.
- C About how much would you have given him?
- A Well, I don't remember because anytime he asked for money, we always send money, but we never keep track of, you now, like this time, too, now they pay for the rent or when it's the end of the month and he always call and we pay maybe \$300 _____. Because they share a room with the kids at the _____.
- C When he was living with Jeff, do you know if _____ ever paid Jeff any money for rent?
- A No, I don't think so. No.
- S Yeah, Mr. _____, do you know why, did _____ ever tell you why he was moved to another house?
- A He said, I think he's crowded at their house, they try to go to the other house and when Jeff's wife, I mean his brother to stay with them at the other house and Jeff stayed in the other house with the other kids.
- S Okay. That was the only thing that you heard about that?
- A Yes. Well, you can talk to _____ and _____ ask _____ because I was mad at them because they never kept promises to us, so I know it's not Verner, I know the brother and the mother.
- C On any of the tickets that you saw, was there ever a travel agency that was used?
- A I have no idea about that. The only thing, because they said he e-mailed ticket, the e-tickets or just went through the airport ticket.
- C Okay. You were there for that registration and then you were there for graduation. Any other trips?
- A Nope. That's all.
- C And did _____ come home, I'm sorry, did _____ come home for Christmas?
- A Uh, yes.
- C And who paid for that?
- A They pay for it.
- C How do you know that.
- A Because we are the parents. We didn't pay for the ticket.
- C Okay. Did you talk to anybody about that?
- A About what?

C About his ticket at Christmas?

A No, because I think they, [REDACTED] and these kids, they talk to them over there and they promised they would come home for Christmas. So, they do that, so they came home for Christmas.

C So, you didn't talk to anybody, Jeff or Manu about that?

A No. I was happy because I know my son will come for Christmas and then he left for school. But that's the reason why I want to send my son because he didn't want to go, but it's good competition for school. But he did make it, because he's a smart one.

C I'm not sure if I asked you this. Are you related in any way to Jeff?

A Nope.

C So you are not related to his mom in any way?

A No.

C Or his mom's husband?

A No. I don't know how they approach it, maybe the kids. Maybe these kids stay ____ those are the kids they recommend [REDACTED] to because I didn't know these people.

C Okay. Now I understand that Jeff went to Leoni High School.

A Uh huh.

C Did you know him?

A No. I never been to Leoni High School.

C Since you went there for graduation, since that time, have you talked to Eleimanu?

S Eleimanu.

C Eleimanu, okay.

A Yeah, I talk to her on the graduation date when I went there to the graduation, she was sitting outside the, she was sitting outside to wait for the people to go in.

C Since that time, have you talked to her?

A No. That's the last time. I never talked to her again.

C How about, but you talked to Coach Verner after that because of the account?

A Yeah. That's the last time my wife talked to him.

: That's right, your wife talked to him, you didn't talk to him. And then, what about Jeff?

Jeff, I never talked to him. Only, I think only, something like we went there and the, we went for a football, so we went to the game sometimes and after that we left.

C Okay. Do we have [REDACTED]'s phone number?

- S No, we don't. Can we get [REDACTED] phone number from you?
- C Do you know what that would be?
- A I don't know [REDACTED] phone number, but my wife does, 808/676-, what is the last numbers, ___ my phone.
- C What should I?
- A 688-
- C 688-
- A 688-1379.
- C 1-3-7-9.
- A 1379. _____.
- C Calling home?
- A Yeah. Just tell my daughter to give me the phone number for... because Eric to Hawaii for the whole summer. _____. 808/676-9006. ____ Eric. [He's speaking in Samoan to someone right now].
- C Whose number is that?
- A That is my brother-in-law, my wife's brother in Hawaii.
- S How long is [REDACTED] going to be there?
- A Probably until next month.
- S And then he's coming back to Stockton?
- A That's my daughter, because she didn't have number, but she will look for [REDACTED] number and then she can help you.
- C Okay. What else should we know about this situation if you were looking at it?
- A I guess the best thing is talk to the kids, you know the student, because they are the one that been in California because they know more and they can [tape ended here]
- C Did you ever ask him that?
- A No.
- C You got some airline tickets?
- A Yes.
- C Did you ever think that was not right?
- A No. I was thinking, you know, it was a good opportunity for the kids, so why not whenever a kid get a chance to help the kids, yeah, good kids _____. And as a matter of fact, it's a very expensive, so we can't afford two or three kids in the college like my, because I have two kids in Fresno State,

_____ and _____ graduate, _____ got one more semester before he finish _____. And Eric is coming up, and that is why we get the opportunity, it is better to go and try.

C Did they ever? I'm sorry.

A That's alright.

C Did they ever tell, did Verner or Coach Jeff or the lady here ever tell you to tell something that wasn't truthful if you were asked?

A Well, I don't know because when she approached me for everything, she was talking, you know, about everything, so _____ I know. If this is a good opportunity for the kids, yeah. As I said, my son didn't want to go because his folks are and then I talked to my son, talked him into going and that's the reason I explain to him, it's a very good competition for school and also he's preparing to go to college, so I said it's a big competition ____, so that's why I want to send him. So, not the football, I was thinking of the school, so that's the reason is why because it's a good time for him to prepare for college. And those _____ an exam would never pass and would never try to ____ up. So, that's the reason I want to send my son. But he doesn't want to go. But he's smart.

C Anything that happened that was unusual, that you thought was unusual while you were over there?

A No. I only go there for the graduation and also the registration. That's all.

C And when you were there at the graduation, where did you stay?

A I stay in Torrence.

C Okay. Torrence was who, your daughter?

A My sister-in-law, my wife's sister and husband. So, we stay there. Anytime we go to the mainland, we always go there. So they _____ so even if we thought _____ will come down and spend a weekend, if we go over there.

C It sounds like you like Coach Verner? Do you like Coach Verner?

A Yes. I don't have any problem with him because he's helping the kids. But just between him and this guy, Jeff, and the mother, I think that's how the things screw up. I _____ and I recommend not to ask some kids to go there because I know they broke their promise and I think Verner didn't know that. As I said, the families would pay for both parents airfare, round-trip airfare, but they didn't. They only pay for one round-trip airfare.

C And that was, your understanding going into to was both parent's airfares on how many occasions?

A Just for registration and the graduation.

C Two times?

A Yes. Two times.

C Did you contact any parents?

A _____ ask you to contact that guy's parents, _____, because I heard the story they pay for both airfares of that couple. [Phone rings and _____ speaks in Samoan at this time]. 209/981-8198. You got the number?

C Yes. I have the number.

A So, I think he has no phone, but that's the kid's friend's phone so you can talk to [REDACTED].

C Okay. Good. You said, did you talk to any parent, after you went through your experience, did you talk to any parents from here about whether they should or should not go?

A No. This is the story I hear from the kids because the kids say they ___ have a chance to. So, that's where the rumors are different. I think they pay for [REDACTED] both parents airfare, but not us. I don't know why we were treated like that.

C And I want to make sure I have this. On the trip over there for registration, they paid yours all the way from here over to LA and then down to Sacramento?

A Yes.

C Did you go coach or first class?

A What?

C Coach or first class?

A No, not first class. See, we went to LA first to visit, and then my wife called Jeff and then, because we only spent ___ with my son, and so we asked him to ask Jeff to pay for our fare going from LA to Sacramento, so that's how we did it. Not from here to LA in California, no. We went to California and then we contact Jeff and they pay for the fare to go over to Sacramento, both of us.

C So, on the way over, for the registration, I understand you flew here from LA and then you flew LA to Sacramento?

A Yes.

C Did they pay for your ticket all the way from here?

A No.

C Okay. So it was just...

A Just from here to LA and then we went to Torrence. I'm not so sure two or three days, after one week, and then fly over to, we contact my son to ask Jeff to pay for our fare from LA to Sacramento. And then he paid for both of us.

C Here's what I have down, you can tell me if this correct. Okay. For the tickets, when you went over for registration, did they pay for yours from here to LA and LA to Sacramento? For yours?

A No. See, they send the e-ticket first from here to LA and back to Hawaii and here. And then when we get to ___ and then we contact my son to check, you know, to contact Jeff to pay for our ticket from LA to Sacramento. So, that's how we got there. And then, she did pay, I mean he did pay for both from LA to, because they didn't pay for my wife's ticket from here to LA, just by myself.

C Yes, okay.

A And then we get there, we asked him to pay for both of us and then they pay for both of us.

Okay, there's two different sets of tickets. Okay.

A Yes.

- C Okay. Good. Okay, well, I'm going to go ahead and shut the tape-recorder off, unless there is anything else you want to tell us.
- A Nope. I think that's all of it. You can talk to the kids and they will explain their relationship over there ____ and because I know they ____ from some other teachers _____ between them and Jeff.
- C I'm going to go ahead and shut the tape-recorder off.

C = Chuck Smrt

S = Scott Donald

A = [REDACTED]

TRANSCRIPTION OF [REDACTED] ON JUNE 26, 2007

- C This is Chuck Smrt. Today is June 26, and I'm at the Trade Winds Hotel in American Samoa. I have two individuals in the room and why don't you pronounce, spell your name, please, and then Scott will introduce himself also.
- P I'm [REDACTED]
- C And how do you spell your name?
- P [REDACTED]
- C And how do you spell your last name?
- P My last name [REDACTED]
- C I'm sorry, [REDACTED]...
- P [REDACTED]
- S And this is Scott Donald, counsel for the CIF San Joaquin Section.
- C And you know we're tape-recording our conversation, is that right?
- S Yes, I do.
- C Okay. I mentioned to you before we started that we are with the California Interscholastic Federation and we're here to talk about any activities, the activities of coaches in California, and that you're one of several people that we're attempting to talk to on this trip. You understand that?
- P Yes.
- C Okay. Good. Let's just get some background information first, okay? What is your address?
- P ___ home?
- C Yes.
- P P.O. Box 1555, American Samoa, 96___
- C 96
- P 799. That's the zip code.
- C Is that for all American Samoa?
- P Yes. We only have one zip code.
- C What is your contact phone number?
- P 252-7416.
- C Okay. At your home, who lives at that home now?

- P Right now, it is me, my other, I have a good friend, and my three daughters.
- C And how old are your daughters?
- P My second one, she's 16 going on 17 and the other one is 14 going on 15, and the other, she's nine years old.
- C Great. So, [REDACTED] is the oldest?
- P Yes.
- C Good. Now, [REDACTED] attended Leone, is that right?
- P Yes.
- C He attended for three years?
- P For three years, yes.
- C And you worked at Cost-U-Less for how long?
- P One year already.
- C And I think you mentioned before we were just chatting that you were divorced. Is that right?
- P Yes, I divorced my husband in 2005.
- C In 05?
- P 205, 206.
- C In 2006?
- P Yes. _____
- C Okay. It's not that important. Okay. [REDACTED] went to Franklin High School this past year. Is that right?
- P Yes.
- C He just graduated recently?
- P Yes.
- C Tell us how it came about that he ended up at Franklin High School.
- P You want me to say everything that I...
- C Yes, start from the beginning. If you could speak up a little. I'm going to turn off the air conditioner. Just start us from the beginning.
- P Well, I think, there is a lady who came over when he was coach's mom. She came over and asked me that my son would like to do something. I ask her what is this, and she said my son, he was selected from the high school up in the state for playing football, to go to play. I never

watched their son play football. They were watching some tape or someone sent a tape and that's where this came from. I said I will ask my son. I asked my son if he wants to go. He said no, I don't want to go. I still don't understand why not finish high school and I ask him _____. Who did want you to go up there, and he goes no, I want to finish my high school _____ in the summer, and then it's up to you. And then, maybe after _____, but it was a lady who came over and asked me for _____. And then it so happened we do this. _____ or something. _____??

C This lady, who was this lady?

P I think it's the coaches, someone who coaches up at Franklin High School mom, their mom.

C Do you know her name?

P I always called her Manu, but I didn't know the last name.

S You called her Manu?

P Manu.

S That's M-a-n-u?

P Yes.

C How many times did you talk with her? When she came to you the first time, you had a conversation, and you said that _____ said, no, he didn't want to go. Did she come back?

P Yeah, she came back because I think twice she came back. She didn't even, you know, find me at work or at home. That was a week from _____, that's _____ and then she told me that in asking. We had never met. She didn't even talk to _____, too, but it was only me. And I remember she came over and asked me for permission and I got shocked. It was oh...the future _____ go up _____. I don't know, _____ asked her the same. That's it.

C So, did anybody else come over and talk to you or call you?

P No.

C Any other parents of people who had gone there?

P No.

C When the lady came over, what did she tell you was going to happen?

P Nothing much that she told me, but the only thing I ask is how can we, who's going to pay all this money for us to do this. I told her that I couldn't, and she said don't worry, everything is going to be paid by people in State. They pay the fare and stuff like that.

S Did she say who was going to make those payments?

P ??

C And what time of year was it when you were having these conversations with her?

P You mean day or at night she came over and saw. I don't remember because my kids always told me that.

C You said you worked at Cost-U-Less for one year. Where did you work prior to that?

P It was over at PACE – American History _____.

C Did she ever come to your work?

P No.

C When did [REDACTED] go up there, what month?

P I don't remember. We came, I brought my son and my friend.

C So, you went also?

P Yes.

C Do you remember, had he finished his junior year?

P No. He didn't even finish his junior year, but I think he finished up in the States.

C Okay, so he went up there...

P With all his transfers, transcript, everything, all those transfer papers and everything.

C If you think of a year, the first semester is the fall, like Christmas, and the second semester is Christmas through the spring. Of his junior year, where did he spend his junior year his first semester?

P Down here with me.

C Okay. Then the second semester, where was he of his junior year?

P I don't remember.

[At this time, she looked at her passport. Scott Donald reviewed some of the stamps.]

S It looks like July 18, 07 on July 14, let's see...yeah, it looks like July 18, 07, from this point right here, but there's another.

C July 18? _____

S Yeah, I believe it's July 18, 04. This looks like all 04s, 02s, 03s, so forth. Here's August 23, 04. July and August are the only dates on here. Is this a Honolulu/Pago Pago boarding pass, that's March 12, 2005. Does that sound right or March 5, 2005?

C He would have finished his, it would have been 06-07 for his senior year and then 05-06 for his junior year. If it was March 12, that would have been his sophomore.

S Those are the dates that are on the passport.

C Okay. We're not sure it sounds like, right?

P Yeah. He finished junior on that date.

C Finished his junior year out there?

P Yeah.

S Then he had his whole senior year up there?

P Yes.

C Okay. So, tell us about when you had a conversation with the lady that you call Manu, what did she tell you besides she said you don't worry about it, don't worry about anything, it will be paid by the states. Did you talk specifically about flights with her? Airfare?

P She mentioned that my fare and the place I'm going to stay was going to be paid.

C So, your airfare and your lodging?

P Yes.

C And what was that, that was for what trip? For your trip initially to go there?

S Your first trip up there? Did they pay for the first trip up there?

P Yes.

C How many trips have you been on?

P There's only one.

C You've been on one trip?

P Yes, to take my son.

C When you talking to Manu, did she say anything about other trips that they would pay for you?

P I, she told me that they were going to pay for everything, even if I want to go for my son's graduation, they are going to pay for that.

C Okay. Any other trips they were going to pay for?

S Did [REDACTED] come home over Christmas?

P Yes, for two weeks.

S Who paid for that?

P Them.

C You didn't pay for it?

P No.

C Did they mention Christmas to you? Did that lady mention Christmas, about coming home for Christmas, when she talked to you initially about coming there?

P No.

- C Okay, so then at some point, you and [REDACTED] go up there, right?
- P Yes.
- C As I understand it, you said they paid for you and [REDACTED] to go up there?
- P Yes.
- C Who did you talk to about the arrangements for that?
- P Someone that, I think Jeff. There were three of us who were going, but only two parents. Who was the other lady? I think she is still up in the state for her son, that lady, she went up there for her son's graduation to live with.
- C Who is that? Who's their son?
- P [REDACTED].
- C Who's the other lady's son? You said another lady went up with you.
- P Yes, it was [REDACTED], and her son is [REDACTED], because there were three kids.
- C Is it [REDACTED]...
- P [REDACTED].
- S ___ did you have any _____.
- P ??
- C Was it ___'s mother?
- P Yes. It was ___, Bob, and me, and my son and her son.
- C Okay, so on that flight that you went on up to California, it was you and your son, and [REDACTED], and her son?
- P And the other kid.
- C And who was the other kid?
- P Tenise.
- C Okay, but not [REDACTED]'s mother or father?
- P No, because I think they were waiting for their visa.
- C Okay. So, all of you were on that flight.
- P Yes.
- C Now, as far as, how did you actually get your ticket for that flight?
- P I think that lady, the one that, Manu, she gave it to us. _____

- C You're positive you didn't pay for it?
- P Yes.
- C You're positive you didn't pay for it?
- P I did not pay for anything.
- C So, you get there, and what happens when you fly, you fly into where, Sacramento?
- P Yeah, we fly to Honolulu and then my brother and cousins met us. We take another flight to California.
- C You have a brother in Honolulu?
- P Yes.
- C What's his name, your brother's name?
- P He's not the one who picked us up _____, it was my cousins who came over.
- C What does your cousin do?
- P He's student. Came with his mom.
- C In Honolulu?
- P Uh huh.
- C Okay, and what did you guys do in Honolulu?
- P I went to my cousin's house because my brother's working. He has a real _____. We went back to the airport.
- C Then you flew to where?
- P All the way to Sacramento. That was the only stop. My first time.
- S Do you remember stopping anyplace else?
- P No.
- S No?
- P No.
- C It sounds like it was your first stop. What happens when you get to Sacramento?
- P Nothing. There were two guys who came to pick us up.
- C Who were those two guys?
- P Steve and Jeff.

- C And then where did you go?
- P From there, we went to, I don't remember. We had something to eat and went to the hotel, they took us to the hotel.
- C What was the name of the motel?
- P I think it _____ area; Clarion Hotel.
- C That's what this is, this is Clarion. That could be Clarion, too.
- P Yes. It's Clarion Hotel. I just throw everything away last week.
- S You're not the first.
- C We are looking at your...
- P We were over at Stockton.
- C I'm sorry.
- P That hotel we stayed in...
- S It was in Stockton, the hotel was in Stockton?
- P Yes.
- C Can you describe the hotel for me?
- P There's a lot of Indian people running that place.
- C What did the hotel look like?
- P It's not that big of a hotel, not a big hotel.
- C That's fine. How many nights did you stay there?
- P I think we stayed Sunday _____.
- C Did you pay for that?
- P No.
- C And what about your meals? Where were you eating your meals?
- P We went to some of the Mexican place over there. We always go eat there.
- C Who is we?
- P Me, my son, and _____, and her son.
- C And who paid for that?
- P We do pay for it.

- C So what else happened while you were there?
- P Nothing much.
- C Did you go see where [REDACTED] was going to live?
- P Yes, we do.
- C And where was he going to live?
- P It was a nice building. It had four bedrooms, and I don't know about bath. That's the only thing I do when I was there. And we ____ some other ____ there and _____. That's it. There was just one night that we did go over there. We just go for the kids and then have dinner and then we went back to the hotel.
- C Who was living over there?
- P Just that guy.
- C Which guy?
- P Jeff.
- C Jeff was living there?
- P Yeah.
- C And then [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were they staying with you guys at the hotel or were they over someplace else?
- P No, we were still with them. I think at least one night there, they went and stayed the weekend at the house with my son.
- S The day you walked to the hotels you went over to the house?
- P Yes.
- C When you went to Jeff's house, there was no one living there besides Jeff?
- P ??
- C And that is where [REDACTED] was going to live?
- P Uh huh. There was somebody still living there. They were ____ or ____.
- S Were they Samoan boys?
- P ??
- C And who were they?
- P I don't remember their names.
- C Would you draw a diagram of Jeff's house for me, the inside of the house? You were there, right?

P Yes.

C Could you draw a diagram of it? Where the kitchen is, where the bedrooms are, where the living room is?

P Like, I don't think so, I can't do that. I don't remember that much.

S Besides being at the house, did they take you anyplace else, the school? Did you go to the school? Did you go to Franklin High School to see where Lewis would go to school?

P Yeah, we just went, I just went and registered my son.

S So, you did go to the school?

P Yes.

S How did you get there?

P Jeff gave us ride.

S Did Jeff take, who did Jeff take to the school when you went? Was it just you and Jeff?

P It was me, Jeff, and [REDACTED].

S And [REDACTED]?

P Yes.

S The kids didn't go? [REDACTED] didn't go? And [REDACTED] didn't go with you to the school?

P No, they all came with us _____.

S Okay, so that's what I mean. So, all five of you went to the school together?

P Yes.

S Was school in session that time you were there? Were there classes going on?

P Yes.

S Did you meet any principals or teachers?

P We only just register and that's it.

S Where did you do the registration?

P ____, I think. _____

C What address did you put down? Did you put down the address here or an address in Stockton?

P Up in the states.

C So, how did you know what address to put down?

P The address that Jeff gave to us.

C Do you know if [REDACTED] put down the same address as you?

P I don't see any, I fill out my own. I don't have to fill out.

S You didn't see what [REDACTED] put down?

P No.

S You didn't show her what you put down?

P No.

S You just put down your own?

P I filled out my own paper.

S You signed your name, right? Obviously, you signed your name on the registration form?

P Yes.

S Did you fill out any other parts of it yourself or did somebody fill it out for you?

P I filled everything out for me.

S Some of the things you had to ask Jeff for the information, and one was the address?

P Yes. If I don't understand, I would ask.

S Was there anything else you had to ask Jeff for as far as putting down on the registration form, besides the address?

P ??

S Is [REDACTED] still living with Jeff?

P I think my son is with [REDACTED] now.

C So, [REDACTED] is with Steve?

P Yes.

C Who's with Steve now?

P His kid and the wife.

C Do you remember his address with Jeff or his address now with Steve?

P I think the address with Steve.

C So, what's Steve's address?

P I don't know.

C Do you remember a street name?

P The name, I think, I never wrote any letters to my son.

S Sure, okay.

C What number do you call him at?

P I lost my phone, I don't remember. I lost my phone last Saturday. It was a cell phone there I was calling. He's still in Stockton.

S You called him on [REDACTED]'s phone?

P Yes. That's the only phone I have to contact my son.

C We have an address. What I want to show you, it appears to be, it looks like it's a student registration form, I believe, but it has the last name, [REDACTED]' name, right?

P Yes.

C Then it says grade, it says 12, and it's dated August 24. The address is J [REDACTED] Street. Have you ever heard of [REDACTED] Street?

P No.

C And it has a telephone number of 209/[REDACTED]. Have you ever heard of that number?

P I don't remember it, sorry.

C It says under parent or guardian, it has your name, [REDACTED]n...

P [REDACTED]t. That's my whole name.

C That's my whole name. And then, is that your ex-husband's name?

P Yes, that's [REDACTED], [REDACTED].

C And in August of 2006, do you know if you were divorced yet?

P I think so, yes. I just changed my last name back.

C With this address on [REDACTED] Street, this is not something you remember?

P I don't remember.

C And this phone number of [REDACTED], you're not familiar with that?

P No. Because I never used that phone, I always call Philip's cell phone.

C Okay. So, when you registered, you put down some information. You think you got that information from Jeff, right?

P Yes.

C When you were there, did you ever go to any utility companies, those days you were there in Stockton? Did you ever go to any utility companies?

P Like electrical, stuff like that?

C Cable, etc.?

P No.

C Okay. Did you meet Coach Verner when you were there?

P Who?

C Well, Coach Verner would have been the head coach at Franklin.

S Besides Jeff and Steve, besides Jeff, were there any other coaches you met while you were there?

P Yes.

S Who?

P Yeah, he's a big, tall guy.

C I don't know.

P But we didn't talk like at the time.

S Are you related to Jeff?

P No.

S So you're not related to Steve, obviously, then either?

P They're brothers.

S They're brothers, right? But, you're not related to Jeff and Steve or their mother?

P No.

S Do you know if your husband is related to them?

P No, because he is from Western Samoa.

S Your husband was, your ex-husband?

P He's from Western Samoa.

S Gotcha. Yeah. Are you from Western Samoa originally, too?

P When my dad was born down here.

C So, you're not related to Manu?

P No.

C Tell me about what relatives you have... I think earlier, you kind of mentioned there were some, did you have some relatives in California?

- P Yes, I do.
- C Who are your relatives in California?
- P I have some cousins in Stockton and Sacramento, but I don't know what their address is and I have some in LA, the same.
- S Cousins in LA?
- P Yeah, but, Lewis' uncle down there in California.
- S You said that two of his uncles saw [REDACTED] graduation?
- P Yeah.
- C They're brothers?
- P My real brothers.
- C You have cousins in Sacramento?
- P Yes.
- C But not in Stockton?
- P Not in Stockton, yes. I don't know that place. That's my first time going out there.
- C Did you see your cousins...
- P No.
- C ...when you were there?
- P We never saw any Samoan people up there.
- C So, you're there for several days and what happens next? What else did you do while you were there? You went to the high school, you went to the house one time, what else did you do?
- P After my son's registration, we just leave, it was time to go back to island.
- C Why did you go up? Did you go there to decide whether he was going to go or did you know on the way up he was going to enroll? Had the decision been made already?
- P Well, what you mean, like why did I go up?
- C On the way up, were you going to see it to approve it? Had the decision been made that he was going to go already to Franklin?
- P I think so.
- C So, you stayed for a few days, tell me what happens next. Tell me about your travel home.
- P There's nothing else. We just go shopping for all my son's stuff. That's it. Then we came back to the hotel.

- C And flew back to American Samoa?
- P After that, I think Mary went to Las Vegas to see her daughter. I think I flew by myself. Jeff took me to the airport. So, I flew by myself.
- C Did you fly first class either way?
- P I don't think so, that's not first class seat that I sat.
- S You don't think it was?
- P No.
- C Let's hope it wasn't. You didn't think it was first class, than it wasn't very good then.
- P I don't want to pay first class, no.
- C And you didn't pay for your flight home?
- P No.
- C And that was your only trip there?
- P That was my first trip.
- C I want to go back to how you knew where to go and how you knew your flight, etc. How did you know that? Who gave you the ticket?
- P The lady, Manu, did.
- C So, you come back, [REDACTED] is in Stockton, and he's staying at that point with Steve? With Jeff?
- S Jeff.
- P Jeff.
- C Staying with Jeff. Okay. He stays with Jeff initially. How long did he stay with Jeff until he moves with Steve?
- P I don't know because I, he's still talking that he's still with Jeff. And then, I don't know when he was with Steve.
- S You just know that he's with one of them?
- P Uh huh. He just told me before his graduation that he's with Steve.
- S Did he say why?
- P Because he's hurt. I think he hurt back and then they took him to hospital and then Steve had a wife who drove Jeff. [She's says a little bit here, but it is not understandable].
- S Did he get injured during the football season?
- P He told me got hurt. He cannot walk.

- S He's okay now, right?
- P The only thing that I heard was something along the back.
- S But he can walk now, right?
- P Yes. He's going back because I asked him, I thought _____, you have to be _____. He always say _____, but he went back to school.
- C So, you think he might have moved in with Steve in order for Steve's wife to take him to the doctor?
- P Yeah, that's why he transferred.
- C Now, when you were there or before you sent or since then, did you ever sign over any type of legal guardianship to anyone?
- P Like somebody going to look after him?
- C Yeah. Who's his legal guardian?
- P Up there, I think Steve's wife.
- C Did you sign anything that says Steve's wife is now his legal guardian?
- P No.
- C When was the last time you talked to your cousins in Sacramento?
- P I didn't talk to anybody.
- C Even since then, when is the last time you talked to them?
- P I didn't even talk to anybody, but I have some cousin up there, but I didn't remember anybody.
- C Since, when was the last time you talked to your cousins in Sacramento?
- S Have you ever talked to them?
- P No.
- S You just know they're there?
- P Yes. Because, I met one of my cousins, he asked me where were you, and I said I was up in Sacramento and he goes, we have a lot of cousins up there, and so I told my son that we have a lot of cousins up there, but I didn't talk to anybody.
- C Do you know if your son has ever talked to those cousins?
- P No, he don't know anybody.
- C Okay. Going back to his lodging, whether it was with Steve or with Jeff, did you ever give Steve or Jeff any money for lodging?

P No.

C Did they ever ask for anything, for any money?

P No.

C Do you know if [REDACTED] is paying them anything?

P I don't think so, no.

C Do you give [REDACTED] some money sometimes?

P I always give money to my son.

C About how much do you give each month?

P Every paycheck, I gave \$100.

S How would you get that to him?

P I opened an account down here.

S And you think it's about \$100 a month?

P Every twice a week, you know, every pay period that I make it, I always send money. Even the dad, he send money, too.

C And you get paid how often?

P Twice a week?

C Twice a week or twice a month?

P Twice a month, sorry.

C Twice a month?

P Yes.

C And his dad also sends money?

P Yes.

C When the lady first came over to see you and talk to you about him going up there, you were still married to your husband?

P We had separated during that time.

C You were separated?

P Separated.

C Is [REDACTED] dad, [REDACTED], how do you pronounce the name?

P [REDACTED]

C [REDACTED] Has [REDACTED] been involved with any of the California activities?

P No.

C Has he ever been up there to see [REDACTED]?

P Never.

C You mentioned Christmas, that [REDACTED] came home. Tell me about how that happened? How did that come about?

P He told us that he's going to come down for two weeks, and he goes that's fine for you. They pay for his ticket, because we didn't even do any payment for any fare or stuff for him.

C Did you talk to Steve or Jeff or Manu about that?

P No.

C You know you didn't pay for it?

P I did not.

C When you went up there, do you know if a travel agency was used? Do you know if a travel agency called L&L?

P I don't have any idea for any travel agency.

C What about when [REDACTED] came home, do you know if his ticket was purchased through a travel agency?

P I didn't pay attention for what you are asking me, stuff like that.

C And then, when you went up there, do you still have any of your tickets for your flights?

P I still have my ticket passport.

C Once you got done flying, we think that was in 2005, would you still have your airline tickets, any receipts or stubs or anything?

P What you mean by?

C You know when you fly, you give them a ticket, but you also have like a receipt?

P Yes.

C Do you still have your receipts from when you flew up there?

P Uh huh.

C You still have that? Is that at home?

P Yes.

C Is it possible we could take a look at it?

- P Honestly, I burnt everything up because we have some other tickets that we used to Honolulu several years, so I burnt everything. I don't have the ticket.
- C So, you don't think you have receipts of that. What about when [REDACTED] came home at Christmas? Would you have anything from him at Christmas, anything pertaining to his tickets?
- P No, sir. I don't have anything.
- C When did you know that [REDACTED] ticket was going to be paid for coming home for Christmas?
- P I'm so sorry about that. I never paid attention for it. Obviously, I don't...the only thing that after when is he going back.
- C When you talked to Manu at first, early on, did she say anything about Christmas, coming home, free ticket at Christmas?
- P Not that I remember anything, I don't know, I'm sorry.
- C You know you didn't pay for his ticket?
- P No.
- C When he was here, did he play in the All-Star Game?
- P Yes, he did.
- C Did he play for the Hawaiian team?
- P Yes.
- S Did you go watch that?
- P ??
- S Was that the first time you saw him play?
- P In the final quarter, on that, ___ was ___ last game.
- S So, you just seen him play in two games?
- P But never in California.
- C So, what happens about graduation? Did you think about going to graduation?
- P Yes, I was thinking that, I talked to the manager that I have two weeks vacation, I want to go see my son for his graduation.
- C Why didn't you go?
- P The first thing I thought, they're going to pay for my ticket. They told me that they would take care of everything for us to go up. And then I found out that, I talked to my son to ask Steve or Jeff would I get to, are they going to pay for anything for like tickets for me to come up and the parents. I don't know, he never asked Steve or Jeff. Later, I told him okay, I'm not coming over.

I don't have nobody to watch your sisters. The thing is, I'm not going to come. I'll send my friend to come over to your graduation.

S So, you thought at first they were going to pay for you to come over?

P Yes.

S And you thought that because why? Why did you think that they were going to pay for it?

P Why?

S Why did you think they were going to pay for you to go to the graduation?

P Because we heard they were going to pay for us to come over.

S Who told you that?

P I heard. Some other parents.

S Did Eleimanu ever say, did Manu say she was going to pay for you to come over?

P No.

C He's been with Steve. You don't know what he's going to do? What is he going to do this summer, do you know?

P I'm not sure. I don't know, because I haven't talk to my son after he graduate.

C And who told you that he was going to Delta?

P My brother. I think he asked him, he mentioned something about Delta College.

C Do you know if he's going to play football there?

P I'm not sure. I don't know. I haven't talked to him, like I told you. I'm still waiting for a call from him because I lost my phone.

C Sure. Do you know, when he was injured, you said he hurt his back?

P Yes.

C And you think that was during football? Is that right?

P Yes, he told me that.

C Do you know what his injury, how well he is doing now?

P I don't know. I'm not sure.

3 He injured himself during football, after the season was over, because he played in the Samoan Bowl, right? He played in the All-Star Game?

P Yes, he did.

S So, had he injured himself before the All-Star Game or after the All-Star Game?

- P He was injured himself up in Stockton.
- S Stockton?
- P Yeah.
- S After the All-Star Game?
- P Uh huh.
- C Do you know when he's coming home? Is he coming home this summer?
- P I don't think so, because I ask him, but he told me that he's not coming for the summer.
- C Do you have anything?
- S No, I don't.
- C Anything else that happened that you thought was unusual, anything that happened that surprised you during all this?
- P No.
- C Did you think, when you got your airline ticket, when they paid for that, did you think that was okay?
- P Now that I know, I think about everything else, everything. I don't have any idea.
- C Well, did anybody say it was or wasn't okay?
- P Nobody say anything. I never think their, you know, something like this okay.
- C Okay. That may be everything I had. Have you ever talked with Jeff or Steve? Have they ever called you after you came back?
- P Never.
- C Did you ever call them?
- P I called once at Steve's house and then the lady answer the phone, I think that's Steve's wife. I only ask for my son, that's it, I didn't ever talk to anybody.
- C So, you haven't talked to them since you've been over there and that's been almost...
- P We were talking like talk that night that were ready to go back to ____ and he told me that don't worry, everything's going to be okay and I told you about my son, don't let anybody come and take him, take my son, like one of my relatives or something like that. I just told Jeff, I don't want my son to go my other brother, my cousins, to pick him up, only my brother _____ they will come and pick him up or just _____.
- C So, your brother's in Riverside?
- P Oceanside.

- C Did we talk about that?
- S Yes.
- C Okay. Good. Well, I think that's all I had. Okay. Do you talk to [REDACTED], [REDACTED]'s mom, since you've been back?
- P No. She's still okay. I think she's still up in the states right now.
- C She went up there for graduation?
- P Yes, and then I think she told me that after the graduation that she was going to go visit daughter in Las Vegas.
- C Did someone up there pay for her trip for graduation?
- P I think she's going to pay for her own to go to graduation.
- C Did they pay for anything for her trip up there?
- P I think she pay for her own to go to the graduation.
- C Okay, good. I'm going to turn this off. Thank you very much.

C = Chuck Smrt
S = Scott Donald
P = [REDACTED]