

TAPED INTERVIEW
OF
SERGEANT JOSEPH MORICI, DSN 4306
DATED
MARCH 16, 2007

SGT. PEARSON: This is Sgt. Sheila Pearson, investigator of the Internal Affairs Division. Today is Friday, March 16, and uh 2007 and the time is approximately 4 p.m. I'm conducting this interview in the office of the Internal Affairs present is Commander of Internal Affairs Capt. John Hayden, Deputy Commander Lt. Huelsmann, Jack Huelsmann, also present in the room is Sgt. Joseph Morici, DSN 4306, and is attorney Jim Towey. This interview is being conducted regarding allegations of conduct unbecoming stemming from arrests made during the ticket scalping detail throughout the St. Louis Cardinals World-Series in October of 2006. Uh Sgt. Morici I noticed you've signed the Advise of Rights Form. Has your attorney explained this to you?

SGT. MORICI: Yes.

ATTY. TOWEY: Joe you understand what the Advise of Rights allows you to do and that's to make a statement to uh Sgt. Pearson relative to the internal investigation regarding these tickets and nothing you say in this statement to Sgt. Pearson could be used against you in any subsequent criminal prosecution should there be one. Is that your understanding?

SGT. MORICI: Yes.

ATTY. TOWEY: And that's the basis upon which you are making your statement?

SGT. MORICI: Correct.

SGT. PEARSON: And Sgt. Morici you do understand if you refuse to answer any questions, if you give us any false responses that will be uh could lead to departmental discharges and then possibly discharge.

SGT. MORICI: Yes.

SGT. PEARSON: Sgt. Morici um for a minute can we just kind of uh brief overview of your procedures in Narcotics or when you were cause I understand you are no longer in Narcotics, but uh when you were there a brief overview of your um property procedures, uh, I noted, uh we noted, we have heard that there's multiple areas that uh officers are able to place property in. Um could you give us just a

D347



TAPED INTERVIEW
OF
SERGEANT JOSEPH MORICI, DSN 4306
DATED
MARCH 16, 2007

brief overview of how it is an officer would determine which one I would use or what goes in them, different areas.

- SGT. MORICI: A lot of times it would depend on the evidence. Like uh lets say a money naturally always goes to Asset Forfeiture or narcotics goes to the lab, but the other things we have a locker um within our office with a lock, a pad lock on it with a key and then I have the key when the officers need to put something in there I give them the key and then they put their evidence into the locker.
- SGT. PEARSON: And how many people in the Narcotics office have tickets uh ur have keys to those that locker?
- SGT. MORICI: I have a key and I believe some of the sergeants every sergeants and lieutenant may have a key, I'm not sure. I do know that I have a key.
- SGT. PEARSON: And um you're fairly sure that each sergeant has one and the lieutenant, is that correct?
- SGT. MORICI: I would think so. I know that when the lock was put on there awhile back that I know I got a key to it. So I could let my officers ur detectives into the cage.
- CAPT. HAYDEN: So what we're saying sergeant does, do the detectives have access to that themselves? Will they be able to put evidence in and out (inaudible) without, without you?
- SGT. MORICI: Um I wouldn't without the key I don't think they would.
- CAPT. HAYDEN: Ok but if you were to give them the key they would be able to?
- SGT. MORICI: Oh yeah, if I gave them the key I they could go in and do what they needed to do and then they would give me the key back.
- SGT. PEARSON: So you always keep your key with you, so uh the key is not your key hung in your office or on your desk and your officers able to come and go with that key as they chose, is that correct? Now is there another area that's used for uh property?

D347

TAPED INTERVIEW
OF
SERGEANT JOSEPH MORICI, DSN 4306
DATED
MARCH 16, 2007

- SGT. MORICI: I use to have a safe in my office and uh sometimes there would be items placed in there if it was late at night and there was Asset Forfeiture money had to go down the next day. Uh I had a safe and the money would in there and then I would come in and get the money out for the officer and make him take it to Asset Forfeiture.
- SGT. PEARSON: Ok, so would you....
- LT. HUELSMANN: Then if the, I'm sorry, then if the, the after hours for the lab for drugs would go where?
- SGT. MORICI: Um, I know the lab closes at two and they would get off at two. They'd try to make it to the lab before the lab closed. I never had any that I could remember put any drugs or anything they've always made it down to the lab.
- LT. HUELSMANN: Ok.
- SGT. PEARSON: So (clears throat) lets talk a little bit about uh this detail for the World-Series. We understand that there may have, at the beginning of the playoffs of the World-Series there may have been a briefing or um roll call, the last roll call for Narcotics uh to kind of talk about um the ground rules. Is that correct?
- SGT. MORICI: Um
- SGT. PEARSON: Or do you recall at that time?
- SGT. MORICI: I don't, I don't, I recall we always get together and we'll talk before we do an operation so I'm sure there was some type of a last roll call when we talked about you know what area were predominately good in the past where we could find scalpers and things like that.
- SGT. PEARSON: And um specifically we, I kind of want to first talk about arrests. Were there guidelines given about uh who was to be arrested and who was to be summonsed? Were you to be notified?
- SGT. MORICI: I was, I want them to notify me of every summons and every arrest of course that they made. And um if the person was able to be summonsed and released I mean then you just summons and

TAPED INTERVIEW
OF
SERGEANT JOSEPH MORICI, DSN 4306
DATED
MARCH 16, 2007

release him, but if they had to be booked for whether they lived out of fifty miles or if then that person needs to be booked.

SGT. PEARSON: And you say notify you so where you there uh during the Cardinals play uh World-Series? Where you there on location or what, where were you hang out of?

SGT. MORICI: I was actual, I would be out riding in the streets with those (inaudible) I mean they would they'd break off in their little pairs of three. I think I had seven or eight people working for me that day.

LT. HUELSMANN: Well this according to the official detail. It came out of Operational and Planning. Whether it was accurate

SGT. MORICI: Lets see.

LT. HUELSMANN: The three of you as a, as a unit, Lt. Deeba might have switched people around, but that's what the detail shows.

SGT. MORICI: Uh, ok. I think it looks pretty accurate. But I think Bottini worked with Cindy and 'em though. I think that they, but that's not a big deal. But, no I wanted them to make me aware but I actually went out in the streets and I would help 'em just spot people or drive and say you know there's some guys on the corner here you guys might want to check them out. I was, I would kind of spot around and I would try to help them out.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok so you would spot the potential um violators and then let them know where the location was?

SGT. MORICI: Well a lot of times they would find them on their own to. Its wasn't like I was finding them all for them, but I would help them out as much as I could.

LT. HUELSMANN: Do you remember if, if all or most of them would have been on foot or would some of them be in a car? Cause sometimes you're in a car, sometimes you're on foot.

SGT. MORICI: I, I pretty much stayed in the car.

D347

TAPED INTERVIEW
OF
SERGEANT JOSEPH MORICI, DSN 4306
DATED
MARCH 16, 2007

- LT. HUELSMANN: Ok.
- SGT. MORICI: I was driving the car sometimes I would get out and if we'd walk around I'd walk around with the guys to just to trying to get people to sell us tickets, but.
- LT. HUELSMANN: Cause I would think that as the game, the game time approaches to get closer to Busch Stadium it might be kind of hard to do.
- SGT. MORICI: Right. Then we'd get out and walk. I'd, I'd do a little bit of both.
- LT. HUELSMANN: Alright.
- SGT. PEARSON: So after each arrest or summons the officer was expected to contact you and let you know how ur who they arrested and how many tickets, is that right?
- SGT. MORICI: Correct.
- SGT. PEARSON: Ok. And um just in general purposes the tickets then were seized as evidence, what would the officers, what would they do with those tickets after the arrest?
- SGT. MORICI: I know that they would uh they would remain out in the fields with them. I, a lot of guys would basically, when they wrote summons they would paperclip 'em to the actual summons so they had everything together. Some guys had file folders. Just depends on the, which guys when you see them they had a clipboard and they would keep everything on the clipboard with paperclips cause it was easier and it gave them something to write on and then uh once they were finished they would come in and do their reports and things like that with them.
- LT. HUELSMANN: How would they, how would they keep their undercover capacity standing out in the middle of 8th and Clark with a clipboard?
(laughing)
- SGT. MORICI: We'll what we did we had a couple of guys go in with no police nothing on trying to, and then we'd have guys you know and when they start talking to them, you know we'd have the other guys go in and actually make the arrest so that we have people in plain

TAPED INTERVIEW
OF
SERGEANT JOSEPH MORICI, DSN 4306
DATED
MARCH 16, 2007

clothes trying to uh, and usually the guys with the police on would take the report so that....

LT. HUELSMANN: I'm following you.

SGT. MORICI: so that the guys undercover just look like you know they'd have their Cardinal shirts on and just trying to blend in and trying to get people to sell them tickets.

SGT. PEARSON: So someone would kind of take over and, and take the suspect and the tickets? (Inaudible) is that kind of what you're saying? Well the the ones that um continue to look for....

SGT. MORICI: And they'd switch off to. I mean then, then some of them will put their stuff on and they, they'd switch out at night.

LT. HUELSMANN: And some detectives told us they would keep, (pause) you know their police car relatively close by and just take the suspect to their police car and do the paperwork there and then and then let them go from their police car.

SGT. MORICI: Sometimes they would, but it depends on where they were walking and how close to the car where they may do that.

LT. HUELSMANN: Right.

SGT. PEARSON: Um to get more specific and lets talk about the last few days of uh the World-Series. Um you had several detectives here and speaking and, and to use their terminology um it's common knowledge that tickets could be scanned uh or could be given to family members, scanned and then placed back into evidence. Uh their saying that was common knowledge among narcotics. Have you ever heard conversation...

SGT. MORICI: No I have not

SGT. PEARSON: such as that before?

LT. HUELSMANN: The conversations like that took place in the office area prior to during the World-Series.

TAPED INTERVIEW
OF
SERGEANT JOSEPH MORICI, DSN 4306
DATED
MARCH 16, 2007

- SGT. MORICI: I didn't hear anything of that nature at all.
- SGT. PEARSON: Uh were you personally aware or let me ask you when did you become aware that something like this was being done with the tickets?
- SGT. MORICI: It was actually, I got it from Joe Crews that you, that IAD was doing a uh investigation and when you came to our office. Uh that I did know about Ehnes' complaint and things like that, but as far as something with the actual tickets that was pretty much the first time.
- SGT. PEARSON: And uh during this ticket scalping detail did you have knowledge of any officer doing uh something like this, specifically giving tickets to their family members, evidence. Did you have any knowledge of any officers doing that?
- SGT. MORICI: No I did not.
- CAPT. HAYDEN: For the record Sgt. Morici did you go to any games.....
- SGT. MORICI: No sir.
- CAPT. HAYDEN: based on tickets that were seized during the World-Series?
- SGT. MORICI: No. No sir.
- SGT. PEARSON: Have you ever received from any member of this department whether it's an officer, commander, civilian, have you ever received any requests from anyone for tickets seized during scalping, ticket scalping details?
- SGT. MORICI: No I have not.
- SGT. PEARSON: Have you, do you have any knowledge of anyone in your office receiving requests such as that?
- SGT. MORICI: Not to my knowledge, no.
- SGT. PEARSON: Um have you ever heard of someone receiving....

D347

TAPED INTERVIEW
OF
SERGEANT JOSEPH MORICI, DSN 4306
DATED
MARCH 16, 2007

- SGT. MORICI: There's always, there's always rumors of things, but nothing substantiated.
- SGT. PEARSON: And what, what were the rumors that you heard?
- SGT. MORICI: Just I think it was mainly just people just joking around and stuff like that. It was nothing more joking around than people, (inaudible) and things like that. Nothing (pause)
- LT. HUELSMANN: No bonafide requests (laughing)
- SGT. MORICI: No, not like hey I got a call from so and so who wanted tickets, but there's really nothing.
- SGT. PEARSON: Um lieutenant, do you have any questions?
- LT. HUELSMANN: You leveled up, I don't know how many, but you leveled up some reports during the course of, of this ticket scalping arrest or detail made by your detectives. Uh I don't know if you've leveled up this many I/Leads reports from people assigned to Crews or Boone, but uh what's, what steps did you take to ensure when you reviewed a report that indicated that say hypothetically Officer Edmond, Det. Edmond seized, his report that says he seized three tickets? I'm just speaking hypothetically.
- SGT. MORICI: Ok.
- LT. HUELSMANN: To, to actually go into property, the property room to actually see if they were logged in and, and placed into, into the property locker or a safe anywhere. Do you remember taking any affirmative steps to actually audit any or all of the arrests that you leveled up?
- SGT. MORICI: To check the locker to make sure that the tickets were in there?
- LT. HUELSMANN: Right. I'm talking about during the World-Series?
- SGT. MORICI: Uh no.
- LT. HUELSMANN: That's just.....I'm sorry?

TAPED INTERVIEW
OF
SERGEANT JOSEPH MORICI, DSN 4306
DATED
MARCH 16, 2007

- SGT. MORICI: I didn't, I didn't go into the locker to check and make that things were there, but I did see 'em I mean I'd seem 'em packaging tickets and things like that when they were doing their reports. So, but I didn't physically go into the locker and audit any of it, no.
- CAPT. HAYDEN: I might have, I might have missed this if somebody's asked this. Do you have a particular way of which you said that when people are working for you once they either made an arrest or summons how you want them to, turn, take this in other words do, do you have a process, did you have, did you set up a process by which tickets would be presented or, or which locker they would go into or, or was that kind of up to them?
- SGT. MORICI: No. They would, I would have them, I have a key to the uh one locker.
- CAPT. HAYDEN: Ok.
- SGT. MORICI: So that's the only locker that they had to use.
- CAPT. HAYDEN: So all, so all the people that, that worked for you during the World-Series detail did they all the tickets that were seized under you, presented to you and put in that locker, or present, or put, or given the key and put in that locker?
- SGT. MORICI: Right I basically got to get in the cage and I gotta, gotta put my tickets up or I have some evidence. I'd given them the key, they'd go in and put their stuff in and then they'd give me the key back.
- CAPT. HAYDEN: Ok, but you, but nobody said well, none of your folks might want to put theirs in Boone's safe or anything.
- SGT. MORICI: There'd be no reason for them to.
- CAPT. HAYDEN: Ok.
- SGT. MORICI: Unless maybe Boone may have had a key at the time or maybe they need to put something (inaudible) done. (inaudible) they should have put other stuff in the locker with the key that I had.

TAPED INTERVIEW
OF
SERGEANT JOSEPH MORICI, DSN 4306
DATED
MARCH 16, 2007

CAPT. HAYDEN: Is it possible that they knew that some of them put it in both lockers as opposed to putting in the safe?

SGT. MORICI: I wouldn't think so. I wouldn't think that they would because I was there pretty much with them all through the thing and I have a key, so, I would think they would just get the key from me and put their tickets in the uh locker.

CAPT. HAYDEN: Ok.

SGT. PEARSON: Um. Lieutenant, do you have anything?

LT. HUELSMANN: No.

SGT. PEARSON: The time is now 4:15 p.m. and this concludes the interview.

END OF INTERVIEW

djh/5118