

TAPED INTERVIEW
OF
POLICE OFFICER JOSEPH SOMOGYE, DSN 3913
DATED
MARCH 12, 2007

SGT. PEARSON: This is Sgt. Sheila Pearson, investigator of Internal Affairs Division. Today is Monday, March 12, 2007; and the time is about 10 a.m. This interview is being conducted in the office of Internal Affairs. Conducting the interview will be Deputy Commander of Internal Affairs, Lt. Jack Huelsmann, sergeant uh, and myself, Sgt. Sheila Pearson. Um also present in the room um is Joseph Smugali,

P.O. SOMOGYE: Somogye.

SGT. PEARSON: Somogye. I say that...I, I apologize.

P.O. SOMOGYE: That's ok. That's not the first time.

SGT. PEARSON: Somogye, DSN 3915, and ~~this attorney Brian Miller~~ this document is being produced by IAD pursuant to:

P.O. SOMOGYE: Actually my DSN is 3913. MO Open Records Law / Court Order

SGT. PEARSON: What did I say? Date Released: 12/15/09

P.O. SOMOGYE: 15. Released to: [Signature]

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SGT. PEARSON: 13. I'm sorry. DSN, correction DSN 3913. This interview is being conducted regarding an allegation of conduct unbecoming stemming from an arrest made during the ticket scalping detail throughout the St. Louis Cardinals World-Series in October of 2006. Officer Somogye I see that you signed the Advise of Rights Form, the uh your attorney explained them or you have an idea what those are about?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Yes ma'am.

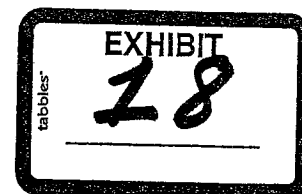
SGT. PEARSON: Ok and you understand that if you refuse to answer any questions or if you falsely answer any questions that would lead to departmental charges and possibly discharge?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Yes ma'am.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok. Officer Samali, Somog....Somogye um....

LT. HUELSMANN: I'm gonna interrupt you for a minute Sheila.

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SGT. PEARSON: Ok.

LT. HUELSMANN: I don't know....uh for the record Sgt. Susan McClain from the Internal Affairs Division is present in the room, Capt. John Hayden will uh come in and out of the uh interview today with uh Det. Somogye, and uh just for the record detective I know that, that you've been given advance notice of this interview and uh asked to review police reports regarding the arrest that you either made or assisted on in this case. I just want to remind you about the uh the police manual rule governing false reporting that I expect you to tell us the truth today regarding the cases that you were involved and the specific questions that we're going to ask you.

P.O. SOMOGYE: Yes sir.

LT. HUELSMANN: Alright. And Brian you're on the record of being here right?

ATTY. MILLER: I am.

LT. HUELSMANN: Go ahead sergeant.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok we expect you to answer what you knew at this time.

P.O. SOMOGYE: Yes ma'am.

SGT. PEARSON: Um...ok first we're gonna draw your attention to uh one of your first arrest and uh it's from October 25, 2006.

P.O. SOMOGYE: Ok.

SGT. PEARSON: The complaint number is 06088346.

P.O. SOMOGYE: Ok.

SGT. PEARSON: Just give us a brief overview of that.

P.O. SOMOGYE: That was on the 25?

SGT. PEARSON: Yes sir it was on the 25.

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P.O. SOMOGYE: Ok. Do you happen to have the defendant's name?

SGT. PEARSON: Uh huh the defendant's name is Willie Miller.

P.O. SOMOGYE: Ok. Yes uh he was arrested and I basically approached him and uh he was scalping tickets. I asked him for what he was asking for the tickets. As I seen the face value of the ticket he was asking much more than that, at which time he was summonsed and I seized two tickets from his person.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok do you recall at the time what he was asking for the tickets?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Uh, I mean, I think, I exactly know what the tickets said I think it was like \$500...It was much more than what the face value was.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok and he was asking that price per ticket, is that correct?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Yes ma'am.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok. Um so you, where did you um go, um uh book Mr. Miller?

P.O. SOMOGYE: He wasn't booked.

SGT. PEARSON: He wasn't booked?

P.O. SOMOGYE: He was summonsed and released.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok. So where did you do the summons and release at?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Right there at the scene.

SGT. PEARSON: On the scene at the stadium is that where you were at?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Yeah right around the stadium.

P.O. SOMOGYE: Ok. So uh from that uh did you take any, anything from him, any evidence or anything?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Just two tickets.

SGT. PEARSON: Two tickets?

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P.O. SOMOGYE: Yes ma'am.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok and so as you completed the uh summons what did you do with the tickets at that time?

P.O. SOMOGYE: At that time they were just on my person.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok. And um later what happened with those tickets?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Uh later, exactly how long later I'm not exactly sure at some point in time I talked to my wife. I advised her that I had two Cardinal tickets and I asked if she wanted to go to the game.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok when you say you're not sure of the time, was that the same day?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Yeah it was later on. I mean we came into work pretty early for the World-Series detail so. So exactly what time I called her I would say an hour or two later.

SGT. PEARSON: After the arrest is that what you're speaking of?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Yes

SGT. PEARSON: Ok and you called her and what, what did you say?

P.O. SOMOGYE: I just let her know that I had two Cardinal; St. Louis Cardinals World-Series tickets. She knew I was working the scalping detail and I asked her if she wanted to go to the game.

SGT. PEARSON: So um so what happened after that?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Uh now at some point and time we went back to the office, I did my police report, and my wife comes into our office many of times, and she met me on the street at the office and I gave her two tickets.

SGT. PEARSON: Uh, so, and just to clarify these are the same tickets you arrested Mr. Miller on, is that correct?

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P.O. SOMOGYE: Yes. Yes ma'am.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok so she then did what with those tickets?

P.O. SOMOGYE: She went to the game.

SGT. PEARSON: She attended the game, her and who else?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Her sister.

SGT. PEARSON: What's your wife's name?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Uh her first name is Susan.

SGT. PEARSON: And what is, her sister you said?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Yes it's Jerry, with a J-e-r....

SGT. PEARSON: So they each took one ticket and entered into the uh the World-Series game?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Yeah actually to be honest I think my wife went down there and I think her sister ended up meeting her down there.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok.

P.O. SOMOGYE: So yes.

LT. HUELSMANN: This was the date of the uh I think it was rained out, the rain out.

P.O. SOMOGYE: Yes sir.

LT. HUELSMANN: So your wife and your sister-in-law, right, Jerry's your sister-in-law, went to the game on the 27th, the make up day.

P.O. SOMOGYE: Yes.

SGT. PEARSON: Um, so at the time who was your partner? Bonadin?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Mark Biondolino.

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SGT. PEARSON: I'm sorry.

P.O. SOMOGYE: Yes.

SGT. PEARSON: And what roll did he play in this. Is he aware of this?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Uh, I mean I didn't actually tell him of what I was doing.
(inaudible)

LT. HUELSMANN: Uh define that. I mean did he.

P.O. SOMOGYE: I mean (talking at once) I don't think he knew what was going on.

LT. HUELSMANN: What do you mean you think you?

P.O. SOMOGYE: No I mean I did....

LT. HUELSMANN: You think he knows. Did you tell him.....

P.O. SOMOGYE: No sir.

LT. HUELSMANN: ...that you were giving these tickets to your sister are your wife?

SGT. PEARSON: When did he become aware of it?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Uh I think when this investigation started.

SGT. PEARSON: Um, who was your sergeant?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Uhhh at that time Joseph Morici.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok and uh was aware of this?

P.O. SOMOGYE: No ma'am.

SGT. PEARSON: When did he become aware of this?

P.O. SOMOGYE: I believe when this investigation was started.

SGT. PEARSON: And who's your lieutenant?

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P.O. SOMOGYE: At that time Michael Siebum.

SGT. PEARSON: And when was he made aware of?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Same time I believe when this investigation was started. I think he was vacation that whole week.

SGT. PEARSON: So we talked about the tickets. Um when did you get the tickets back?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Uh, I, from, at the night that they won it. Whatever day that was on, from my wife.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok so that would have been the 27th uh, the evening of that game you got the tickets back?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Yes.

SGT. PEARSON: They would have been uh attending the rainout date, correct?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Yes ma'am.

SGT. PEARSON: So that would have been a couple of days later?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Yes ma'am.

SGT. PEARSON: And then you got the tickets back that day.

P.O. SOMOGYE: Yes ma'am.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok. Um, prior to this happening or you giving the tickets to your wife, um what knowledge did you have of, of doing this; giving tickets to other people?

P.O. SOMOGYE: I've never given tickets to anybody ma'am that's the first time.

SGT. PEARSON: Have you known people prior to this doing that?

P.O. SOMOGYE: No ma'am.

SGT. PEARSON: So what prompted you to do that on this occasion?

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P.O. SOMOGYE: I don't know. I just figured you know my intentions were originally to have my, I have three boys, to have them go to the baseball game, go see the World-Series game, but you know, that was my intentions.

SGT. PEARSON: So um from these tickets were, did you receive anything in exchange? Any money, any uh gratuities in any way.

P.O. SOMOGYE: No ma'am.

SGT. PEARSON: So there was no exchange between you and your wife or your sister-in-law?

P.O. SOMOGYE: No.

SGT. PEARSON: Uh in exchange for the tickets?

P.O. SOMOGYE: No ma'am.

SGT. PEARSON: Uh have you ever been contacted by any supervisor or commander on this department, uh, to give them tickets to any events?

P.O. SOMOGYE: No ma'am.

SGT. PEARSON: So you've never had any prior knowledge of anybody or scalping details doing that?

P.O. SOMOGYE: I've never done that. I've never been contacted either.

SGT. PEARSON: Never been contacted?

P.O. SOMOGYE: No.

SGT. PEARSON: Lieutenant do you have anything else?

LT. HUELSMANN: No.

SGT. PEARSON: Sergeant do you have anything?

SGT. MCCLAIN: No.

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- SGT. PEARSON: Captain you have anything?
- CAPT. HAYDEN: I have no questions.
- SGT. PEARSON: This concludes the interview, um, before leaving the office.....
- LT. HUELSMANN: But we're moving on to some other cases.
- SGT. PEARSON: Right.
- LT. HUELSMANN: This does not conclude the interview.
- SGT. PEARSON: Well yeah ok. This case we're gonna conclude but prior to you leaving the office I would like for you to fill out ah complete information regarding your wife and uh your sister-in-law. (inaudible) will be contacting.
- LT. HUELSMANN: And with that in mind I, I ask Det. Schwerb about this earlier. Uh have you had any conversations since this investigation started months ago with your wife or your sister-in-law, and I'm gonna, we're gonna, I'm gonna ask you about other cases that you're involved in about this.
- P.O. SOMOGYE: Sure.
- LT. HUELSMANN: About uh this case. Have you talked to your wife about?
- P.O. SOMOGYE: Well she asked, well yeah. Not my sister-in-law, no. Now my wife she knows I'm down here and obvious she knows that this is an investigation, that's it.
- LT. HUELSMANN: Did you talk to her about the possibility that we could be, we Internal Affairs, could be contacting her to question her about this?
- P.O. SOMOGYE: No, no.
- LT. HUELSMANN: I realize this is gonna put you in a rather precarious situation, but I'm gonna order you not to converse or your sister-in-law or anybody else that you gave tickets to in the other three cases.

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P.O. SOMOGYE: Ok

LT. HUELSMANN: That about, we, you know Internal Affairs, Sgt. Sheila uh Pearson or myself may be calling them. I say might, you know we will be contacting them.

P.O. SOMOGYE: That's fine, that's fine.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok we're going to move on to your uh second arrest that you conducted um and this is also on October 25 and it's bearing complaint number 06088629, and in that case you arrested Scott Holt. Can you give us a uh brief summary of that arrest?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Uh similar to the previous arrest ma'am. He was outside of, I forget what hotel it was but I think it's on 4th street, he had like a (inaudible) he was asking tickets (inaudible) and basically he was just waving that (inaudible) around so I got out and conducted you know a basic undercover scalping buy. I asked him how much he wanted for the tickets. I noticed that he was asking like an unus, an absorbent amount of money for these tickets. Um, however I seen that on when you sent that sh sheet out last week with the ticket numbers there was only two tickets listed in this case, but actually I got three tickets from this person. And uh he was arrested, basically arrested and released there on a summons. And seized were three tickets.

SGT. PEARSON: And um at that point what did you do with the tickets?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Uh they were seized and later on my wife met me down there with my two oldest sons and she brought them into the game with those three tickets.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok and so, all three tickets.

LT. HUELSMANN: Go ahead I'm sorry. Your, your wife and two of your sons?

P.O. SOMOGYE: My oldest two yes sir.

LT. HUELSMANN: Cause information from the that we got from the baseball Cardinals are that there was only two tickets.

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P.O. SOMOGYE: Three cause there were three of them and they were listed in my police report and

SGT. PEARSON: Uh right there were three listed in the police report um when the information came back they only showed two of them being scanned. This document is being produced by IAD pursuant to:
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P.O. SOMOGYE: I noticed that. Date Released: 12/15/09

SGT. PEARSON: How old is your youngest? Released to: [Signature]

P.O. SOMOGYE: Well my youngest is five, but my youngest that went to the game was ten and I have an 11 year old. NOT FOR SECONDARY RELEASE

SGT. PEARSON: Ok, huh, I'm not sure. So you're saying there's three, your wife and your two sons attended the game with those tickets?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Yes, yes ma'am.

SGT. PEARSON: So was this, this was a pre-arranged meeting for her to meet you down there.

P.O. SOMOGYE: Well yeah, it wasn't pre-arranged like I said before I kind of like my boys to see a World-Series game, it was foolish, but I called her and she met me down there near the stadium and my two oldest boys and I gave them the three tickets and they entered the game.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok. And with those tickets when did you get those tickets back?

P.O. SOMOGYE: I assume that night.

SGT. PEARSON: Um and in this case was your partner aware?

P.O. SOMOGYE: No ma'am.

SGT. PEARSON: Was your partner there with you with the arrest?

P.O. SOMOGYE: At the time of the arrest, yes, but we were there was many detectives walking around the stadium looking for scalpers, so it wasn't like we were always right next to each other.

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SGT. PEARSON: So you're saying that your partner had no knowledge at all of this?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Yes ma'am.

SGT. PEARSON: Was your sergeant aware of these three tickets?

P.O. SOMOGYE: No ma'am. He was aware of the arrest, but he wasn't that I gave them to my wife and kids.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok and your lieutenant was he aware of this?

P.O. SOMOGYE: No ma'am.

SGT. PEARSON: Um and again with your wife and your two sons um was there any exchange of money or anything at all for these three tickets?

P.O. SOMOGYE: No ma'am.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok so this concludes this arrest. Lieutenant do you have anything else?

LT. HUELSMANN: No.

SGT. PEARSON: Now we're gonna move on to the two cases were you were assisting, you actually assisted in. Um and this one is again October 25, 2006 and the complaint number on it is 06088351.

P.O. SOMOGYE: Ok.

SGT. PEARSON: And in this case you assisted Officer Kranz, DSN 4215, um and you arrested Takih Chester?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Yes.

SGT. PEARSON: Sound familiar to you? Do you recall anything about that arrest?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Uh other than the fact that he was selling tickets over face value. Det. Kranz summonsed and released this person, you know, summonsed him and then he was subsequently released on that summons.

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SGT. PEARSON: Ok and um what at that point um were the tickets? What happened with the tickets?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Um, I mean I'm, I'm sure he seized them and they were on his person and that's all I know.

LT. HUELSMANN: You say he?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Uh Thomas Kranz.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok, so you're saying that you were not, you have no knowledge of what was done with the tickets after the arrest?

P.O. SOMOGYE: No ma'am.

SGT. PEARSON: None at all. So you don't know what happened with those tickets what....?

P.O. SOMOGYE: I don't know who he gave them at all.

SGT. PEARSON: Lieutenant you have anything else? (silence.....)

LT. HUELSMANN: At least according to the police report that, that, that the time that you arrested Willie Miller on the other case, and then this case, Scott Holtz, for uh \$1500 on the 25th so that assuming that that's still somewhat....

P.O. SOMOGYE: Alright are you talking about both my arrests?

LT. HUELSMANN: Actually uh (talking at once)

P.O. SOMOGYE: To be totally honest with you I think the one.....

LT. HUELSMANN: The 25th or on the 24th I believe.

P.O. SOMOGYE: Miller.....even though I might have not drawn the number till the next day, I'm not sure, but I know Miller was on the 24th cause I reviewed by summons and Mr. Holtz was on the 25th but I believe Tommy Kranz summonsed and I released two or three different people in the same incident at the same location.

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SGT. PEARSON: Well I went by what was on the report and on the report here it's got the 25th.

P.O. SOMOGYE: Well it must be a typo then. It's now Tommy Kranz that this a report reflect the 24th.

SGT. PEARSON: Ummmmm it says the 25th also.

P.O. SOMOGYE: Oh really.

LT. HUELSMANN: Alright so getting back to this case with uh, uh I don't know the pedigree of Mr. Chester, 800 Clark Avenue...

P.O. SOMOGYE: Yes sir.

LT. HUELSMANN: that you assisted Det. Kranz with just to recap you have no knowledge first hand or second hand, let's just go to first hand now, at that, at that moment that Det. Kranz gave these tickets to anybody.

P.O. SOMOGYE: No sir I have no knowledge.

LT. HUELSMANN: First hand?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Yes.

LT. HUELSMANN: After the fact I suppose you now know, now know obviously, when did you learn that this was going on?

P.O. SOMOGYE: When this whole investigation started here.

SGT. PEARSON: Alright. We're gonna move to the fourth arrest that you took part in. You were also assisting on this one and it was an arrest that was made also on the 25th, October 25, 2006 and it's bearing complaint number 06088352. Um in this case you arrested a Kenneth Simpson?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Ok.

SGT. PEARSON: Um...

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P.O. SOMOGYE: Did I arrest him or was I the assist?

SGT. PEARSON: You were the assist on him.

P.O. SOMOGYE: Ok who was the arresting officer?

SGT. PEARSON: Um it was Officer Schwerb.

P.O. SOMOGYE: Ok.

SGT. PEARSON: Do you recall anything about this incident?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Actually I don't recall seeing that on the list, but uh, you know.

LT. HUELSMANN: You got a copy of the police report (inaudible)

P.O. SOMOGYE: Sure I can read it. (silence) Yeah I mean as I said before I think that the three of us wrote summons off at the same location. There was several different people on that corner scalping tickets.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok so do you recall this at all?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Yeah we were all there together, yes ma'am.

SGT. PEARSON: Um so in this case do you recall anything about the arrest itself?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Other than the fact that he was summonsed for scalping tickets, I don't recall exactly how much he was asking for the tickets or anything like that.

SGT. PEARSON: Uh do you have any knowledge of uh after the arrest what was, what happened to the tickets?

P.O. SOMOGYE: No ma'am.....I do know but at the time I didn't.

SGT. PEARSON: At that time you had no knowledge of what happened to the tickets?

P.O. SOMOGYE: No ma'am.

LT. HUELSMANN: What's the knowledge that you have know?

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P.O. SOMOGYE: That the tickets were giving away.

LT. HUELSMANN: To?

P.O. SOMOGYE: I have no idea who they gave the tickets to.

SGT. PEARSON: Uh, I'm sorry.

LT. HUELSMANN: Det. Schwerb tells us that uh he met someone in the vicinity of Bush Stadium that afternoon, that evening, and gave him the tickets. Do you have any knowledge or does that recall you, refreshes your memory?

P.O. SOMOGYE: No sir. Well I ran into a bunch of people that I knew down there, but I didn't actually see him give tickets to anybody.

LT. HUELSMANN: That you knew?

P.O. SOMOGYE: That I knew, I mean there was, there was just chaos down there for those three or four days, so I did not see him hand tickets to anybody, so.

LT. HUELSMANN: Ok.

SGT. PEARSON: Officer Somogye uh what exactly do you do with the tickets um after an arrest is made and you're back at the Narcotics office.

P.O. SOMOGYE: Uh they were put into evidence and then put into, we have evidence locker at our Narcotics office and log in the book.

SGT. PEARSON: And uh is, is that what you did with these tickets or was there other things that you did with the tickets?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Well obviously I gave them to people I gave them to and then once I got them back they were placed into evidence and then put in the evidence locker, for evidence.

SGT. PEARSON: How many evidence lockers do you have?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Do we have...at the Narcotics office, just the one.

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SGT. PEARSON: Uh huh.

P.O. SOMOGYE: Just the one.

SGT. PEARSON: Just the one.

P.O. SOMOGYE: That I know that I use. I don't know if there's one upstairs or not cause at the time there was a crew upstairs but we just have one for the downstairs (inaudible)

SGT. PEARSON: Anything further?

LT. HUELSMANN: Did you have any conversations with any of your colleagues? There, you know, there's a number of different Narcotics detectives, Vice detectives that we're bringing in here this week; during the World-Series or before the World-Series about the general concept of if you seize tickets we can give them away to uh, uh friends, family; anything like that?

P.O. SOMOGYE: No sir. What I did was on my own. I didn't talk to anybody about doing it. What I did was my business. I didn't talk to anybody else about it.

LT. HUELSMANN: And you're saying that uh Sgt. Merici had no knowledge at the time that you, you or any other detectives were uh....

P.O. SOMOGYE: No sir.

LT. HUELSMANN: ...taking part in this?

P.O. SOMOGYE: Yes he didn't have any....I didn't tell him anything about it, so.

LT. HUELSMANN: And then Lt. Deebea? As far you, you did not tell Lt. Deebea what you were doing?

P.O. SOMOGYE: No sir.

LT. HUELSMANN: Alright.

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TAPED INTERVIEW
OF
POLICE OFFICER JOSEPH SOMOGYE, DSN 3913
DATED
MARCH 12, 2007

SGT. PEARSON: (inaudible) Ok this concludes this uh interview. The time is
10:24.

END OF INTERVIEW

djh/5118

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