

TAPED INTERVIEW
OF
POLICE OFFICER MICHAEL EHNES, DSN 5628
DATED
MARCH 15, 2007

SGT. PEARSON: This is Sgt. Sheila Pearson investigator of Internal Affairs Division. Today is Thursday, March 15, and the time is approximately 9:37 a.m. This interview is being conducted in the office of the Internal Affairs. Conducting this interview will be commander of Internal Affairs, Capt. John Hayden, Deputy Commander, Lt. Jack Huelsmann, Sgt. Sue McClain, and myself. Also present in the room is Officer Ehnes, Michael Ehnes, DSN 5628, and his attorney Brian Mulligan. This interview is being conducted regarding an allegation of conduct unbecoming stemming from an arrest made during the ticket scalping detail through the St. Louis Cardinals World-Series of October of 2006. Officer Ehnes I see you've signed an Advise of Rights Form. Did you attorney have an opportunity to go over them with you and you understand the contents?

P.O. EHNES: Yes.

SGT. PEARSON: You do understand that if refuse to answer any questions, if you lie during this questioning, if you give any misleading answers it will lead to departmental charges and possibly discharge?

P.O. EHNES: Yes.

SGT. PEARSON: Officer Ehnes we like to first talk about an arrest you made on October 5, uh correction October 25th bearing complaint number 06088366. Uh can you give us a brief summary of that arrest?

P.O. EHNES: Could I take a look at it real quick? (silence..) Uh yeah I was working an undercover detail uh were we targeted the ticket scalping and a Melvin Hackett attempted to sell uh, me tickets for \$800; two tickets, and the face value is a \$150.

SGT. PEARSON: And uh you arrested him, or what happened?

P.O. EHNES: Uh he was released on a summons.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok. So at that time um what was taken as evidence with this arrest?

P.O. EHNES: Two tickets to game 4.

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SGT. PEARSON: And those two tickets while you were summoning him where were those two tickets located at?

P.O. EHNES: Uh, I would have, had been seized by, I had (inaudible)

SGT. PEARSON: You had them on you?

P.O. EHNES: I'd taken them.

SGT. PEARSON: And after the summons where were those tickets placed?

P.O. EHNES: Uh they would have stayed in my pocket.

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

P.O. EHNES: Uh my wife and son went to the game.

SGT. PEARSON: So you're contending that you took uh these two tickets that were evidence and gave them to your wife and your son; is that correct?

P.O. EHNES: Yes.

SGT. PEARSON: And, um, where did this exchange of uh do, did you have that prearranged that you were gonna give them to them or how did that occur?

P.O. EHNES: No, I had called.

SGT. PEARSON: You called....?

P.O. EHNES: I'm sorry, my wife.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok. So when did you call your wife?

P.O. EHNES: I don't exactly recall.

SGT. PEARSON: You don't recall? Did you call your wife immediately after the arrest, later on, when; was it just before the game?

P.O. EHNES: Uh I wouldn't say immediately after but it was before the game.

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SGT. PEARSON: Had you already discussed with her prior to this that you were going to be calling her about the tickets to come down?

P.O. EHNES: No, no.

SGT. PEARSON: Um so your part, who was your partner on this arrest?

P.O. EHNES: I believe it was Rob Singh.

SGT. PEARSON: And was he present during the arrest?

P.O. EHNES: Yes.

SGT. PEARSON: Was he uh present uh when you made this phone call to your wife to uh offer her the tickets?

P.O. EHNES: I don't know if he was standing right there or not. I mean we were together, but I don't know if he was paying attention.

SGT. PEARSON: Was he present when you handed over the tickets to your wife?

P.O. EHNES: Yes.

SGT. PEARSON: So he was there? And had you had a conversation with him about your intentions with these tickets?

P.O. EHNES: Uh yeah I told him that you know I was gonna see if my wife and son wanted to go to the game.

SGT. PEARSON: And when did you have this discussion with him?

P.O. EHNES: Right before I called my wife.

SGT. PEARSON: So had you already discussed this to him prior to that day even before the arrest?

P.O. EHNES: No, no it's when I got the tickets.

SGT. PEARSON: Um so your wife and your son received those tickets and what did they do with those tickets? the same time that they were produced by MO pursuant to:

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P.O. EHNES: They went to the game.

SGT. PEARSON: And when did you receive those tickets back?

P.O. EHNES: Uhhhh when I got home.

SGT. PEARSON: That evening?

P.O. EHNES: Yeah.

SGT. PEARSON: And then from there what did you do with the tickets?

P.O. EHNES: They were uh packaged as evidence.

SGT. PEARSON: And, and packaged as evidence, where were they placed?

P.O. EHNES: Uh, uh, uh 7th, I'm sorry the Narcotics' safe.

SGT. PEARSON: The narcotics safe? And, and where's the safe located?

P.O. EHNES: Sgt. Boone's office.

SGT. PEARSON: So at that time was um your sergeant uh prior to you giving the tickets to your wife or when you gave the tickets to your wife or when you gave the tickets to your wife um did you inform your sergeant what you had done with the tickets?

P.O. EHNES: Um no.

SGT. PEARSON: So when was, when did your sergeant become aware of what you had done with the tickets?

P.O. EHNES: I'm guessing when the complaint came down they asked if I'd used any and I'd said yeah.

SGT. PEARSON: Your lieutenant when did he become aware that you had done this with the tickets?

P.O. EHNES: Um I'm guessing with the complaint.

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LT. HUELSMANN: I'm sorry officer you said that your....I don't want you to guess you know did you.....

P.O. EHNES: I know I'm not sure. I'm not exactly sure then when they found out about it.

LT. HUELSMANN: Ok but you didn't did you tell Lt. Deeba that day or within close proximity of October 25 that you had given those tickets to your wife to use?

P.O. EHNES: No.

LT. HUELSMANN: And you did not...correc...I don't want to ask you a leading question but what about any other of the serg, sergeants in Vice/Narcotics besides Sgt. Crews. Did you tell Sgt. Crews what you had done?

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P.O. EHNES: No.

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LT. HUELSMANN: Sgt. Boone or Sgt. Merici?

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P.O. EHNES: No.

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LT. HUELSMANN: Sgt. Sloan was assigned to the unit, right?

P.O. EHNES: Yes.

LT. HUELSMANN: Wasn't there one other....

P.O. EHNES: Lachenicht.

LT. HUELSMANN: Lachenicht? What's the answer to him?

P.O. EHNES: No.

LT. HUELSMANN: Alright.

SGT. PEARSON: And upon receiving these tickets or after you received the ticket ur given the tickets to your wife did you receive anything in exchange for those tickets? Money, dinner, um anything at all in exchange for those tickets?

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P.O. EHNES: No.

SGT. PEARSON: How, how..in...in interviewing speaking with other people from the Narcotics office they have stated just a broad range of word usage um that it was common knowledge that this could be done with these tickets, give them to someone else, let them scan it, and then place it into evidence. Um have you ever heard conversation such as that in the Narcotics office?

P.O. EHNES: No, I mean I heard in passing or whatever that you know somebody might have used tickets, you know, World-Series tickets.

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SGT. PEARSON: So the answer is no or yes? MO Open Records Law / Court Order

P.O. EHNES: I guess yes.

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SGT. PEARSON: So yes you have.

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P.O. EHNES: Yeah.

SGT. PEARSON: And what was the uh talk of the office about these tickets?

P.O. EHNES: It was just like in passing that somebody had used the tickets. I don't remember who talked about it, but I actually saw it and I got the idea it was on the news, so that's where....

SGT. PEARSON: And what exactly did you see on the news?

P.O. EHNES: They did a story about how some people in uhh Detroit were lucky fans that didn't have tickets and undercover in Detroit were passing out tickets that they had scalped for (inaudible).

SGT. PEARSON: And, and when was that on the news?

P.O. EHNES: (inaudible) right before they came to uh St. Louis.

SGT. PEARSON: Right before.....?

P.O. EHNES: Detroit came, cause I know it was in Detroit.

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SGT. PEARSON: So you contend that the first time that you ever heard of this being done was you saw via media during a special or talking about how this could be done? That was the first time you heard of it?

P.O. EHNES: No I mean I've heard of it before. I mean like that it's happened, you know before hand, but that's you don't put a lot of strong hold on stuff. (inaudible)

SGT. PEARSON: So you've heard it in general conversation and then you uh saw how it really worked on tv when you saw a special about it?

P.O. EHNES: Right. They was just a, it was just a short story about it.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok. So that day you call your wife, ur, before you made the phone call what, what, what made you think that you could have the authority to do such a thing with the tickets?

P.O. EHNES: I guess I just...I didn't think about it that much. I, I just thought you know that they be scanned in and brought back, and they would you know give the, my kids a life chance (inaudible)

SGT. PEARSON: Um have you ever received a phone call or had ah conversation with any department member whether its an officer, commander of this department requesting tickets they conceived as evidence for personal use?

P.O. EHNES: Uh no.

SGT. PEARSON: So you've never received a request such as that?

P.O. EHNES: No.

SGT. PEARSON: Had, is anyone that you know of in the Narcotics office ever received a request such as that?

P.O. EHNES: Not that I know of.

SGT. PEARSON: Lieutenant do you have any questions?

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LT. HUELSMANN: You said that your partner Det. Singh knew that you intended to give these tickets to your wife. What was his response to that?

P.O. EHNES: I don't remember what he....said about it or anything.

LT. HUELSMANN: Specifically do you remember if he objected; saying Mike don't do that you shouldn't do that.? Do you remember that if he said that?

P.O. EHNES: I don't remember.

LT. HUELSMANN: You don't remember, alright?

SGT. PEARSON: Mr. Ehnes we're gonna move to the second arrest that uh you took part of and actually you were the assisting officer and that was the arrest that was made on October 25, 2006 and it bears complaint number 06088953. Um can you give us a brief summary of this arrest?

P.O. EHNES: Uh Mr. Johnson tried to sell Rob Singh and I tickets uh that were \$200 for \$4000.

SGT. PEARSON: \$4000 a piece?

P.O. EHNES: Uh I believe it was total.

SGT. PEARSON: And uh who placed Mr. Johnson under arrest?

P.O. EHNES: Rob Singh.

SGT. PEARSON: And uh what was taken as evidence from Mr. Johnson?

P.O. EHNES: Uh the two World-Series tickets.

SGT. PEARSON: And where, doing the uh was he arrested or summonsed?

P.O. EHNES: He was actually arrested.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok and in this case um why was he arrested and not summonsed like some of the other ones? This document is being produced by IAD pursuant to:

P.O. EHNES: He lived out of town.

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SGT. PEARSON: Who seized the tickets, I'm sorry?

P.O. EHNES: I believe it was Rob Singh because it was his arrest.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok so Mr. Singh, ur Officer Singh seized the tickets and where were they placed at the time of the arrest?

P.O. EHNES: I'm not sure.

SGT. PEARSON: Where was Mr. Johnson booked?

P.O. EHNES: Central Patrol.

SGT. PEARSON: And from that ummmm can you recall, actually lets go back at the time when you were there at the ballpark with Mr. Johnson? What if any comments did he give you regarding money that he had on him?

P.O. EHNES: I didn't hear at that point. What happened was when Rob placed him under arrest I was standing further down by that restaurant by the patio area. I'm not sure what the restaurant (inaudible)...uh listening to the other scalpers. So he was about thirty yards away from me to the west.

SGT. PEARSON: Ok. So you were, you were not in ear range ... earshot of hearing the conversation, or you could hear it?

P.O. EHNES: No, I couldn't ...

SGT. PEARSON: You could not hear the conversation. Okay. So, when did you come and join the two, Officer Singh and Mr. Johnson?

P.O. EHNES: It was probably about 15 minutes, because there was another scalper standing next to me trying to sell to a girl and her boyfriend.

SGT. PEARSON: So ... you joined Mr. Singh ... Officer Singh ... what ... after he placed him under arrest, or when did you join?

P.O. EHNES: Yes, by the time I got there, they were ... we were ready to go.

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SGT. PEARSON: So, at that time, when you were ready to go, did he make any comments about money?

P.O. EHNES: Not at that point ... to me. He had made a comment, I think on the way to the station or right at the station, that he had spent \$2000 of his own money, wrapped up in those tickets.

SGT. PEARSON: Okay ... and that was the only money that he spoke of at that time was his \$2000 in the tickets?

P.O. EHNES: That he had, yeah.

SGT. PEARSON: So ... when you're at the station, who took his property?

P.O. EHNES: I don't recall.

SGT. PEARSON: Umm ... do you recall how much money was taken off of him at the time at the station?

P.O. EHNES: No, I (inaudible) the money was \$539.

SGT. PEARSON: And, while at the station, did he make any comments about money?

P.O. EHNES: No, we counted it in front of ... Rob and I counted it in front of him ... we were all there ... we did it in the cell because the property room ... somebody was in ... not the property room ... the computer room ... somebody was in there interviewing another prisoner or something like that ... so that was full.

SGT. PEARSON: So ... did you at all, the rest of the evening, receive ... or have any conversation with a supervisor or anyone about Mr. Johnson?

P.O. EHNES: I told Sgt. Crews that we had the arrest.

SGT. PEARSON: And when did you notify Sgt. Crews that you had an arrest?

P.O. EHNES: I don't recall if it was before we had transported him or while we were moving him to Central Parkway. This document is being produced by IAD pursuant to:

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SGT. PEARSON: And ... was Sgt. Crews ever notified that he was making allegations of missing money or \$2000 or complaints of any kind from Mr. Johnson?

P.O. EHNES: Yeah, Sgt. Crews came in and talked to Rob and I and said that ... I guess Mr. Johnson had been released and was making a complaint that there was money missing and I think asked if we had seized any money.

SGT. PEARSON: So that was later that evening?

P.O. EHNES: Right, right.

SGT. PEARSON: So, later that evening, Sgt. Crews called you on the street or something?

P.O. EHNES: Yeah, I don't remember if it was on the street or if we were at the office or ...

SGT. PEARSON: Okay ... and he comes up and what exactly did Sgt. Crews say?

P.O. EHNES: I don't remember exactly what he says, I know it was something that ... you know this guy is saying that you took some of his money, did you guys seize any money as evidence?

SGT. PEARSON: So ... the tickets in this case ... um ...

LT. HUELSMANN: Let's back up ... when ... when was this conversation ... the day of the arrest on the 27th ... or some other time after that?

P.O. EHNES: No, this was on the ...

LT. HUELSMANN: Oh, I'm sorry, not the 27th ... but ...

P.O. EHNES: The day of ... yeah ... it would have been the 27th I guess.

SGT. PEARSON: Mr. Johnson was able to make bond, is that correct?

P.O. EHNES: Yes, I believe so.

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SGT. PEARSON: He made bond a little after the arrest and he ... do you know where he made the complaint at?

P.O. EHNES: I'm not sure.

SGT. PEARSON: And ... um ... from that ... um ... I'm sorry ... go back ... what did your sergeant indicate to you that he was complaining of?

P.O. EHNES: That we had taken some money.

SGT. PEARSON: Some money ... specifically what did he state?

P.O. EHNES: I think he said \$2000.

SGT. PEARSON: Okay ... and what else did your sergeant do at that time?

P.O. EHNES: I believe he went down to talk to him ... or met him ... I think it was at the Central Patrol, but I'm not sure.

SGT. PEARSON: Okay ... and then did you hear anything else from Sgt. Crews about that?

P.O. EHNES: Just saying that ... you know ... he said that this took place and they were gonna notify ... I guess ... Internal Affairs the next day.

SGT. PEARSON: So, did they actually ... did he actually question you about different aspects of it?

P.O. EHNES: He just asked ... you know ... if we had taken the money or what had happened.

SGT. PEARSON: And that was it ... he didn't do any further investigation with you?

P.O. EHNES: No ...

LT. HUELSMANN: Don't speculate, do you know? This document is being produced by IAD pursuant to:

P.O. EHNES: Yeah, I don't know.

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SGT. PEARSON: So ... at this time ... go back a little bit ... with the tickets ... you seized two tickets from Mr. Johnson, what happened with those tickets?

P.O. EHNES: My wife and son used them.

SGT. PEARSON: So ... you took those two tickets, and I think on this one, Officer Singh is the Officer who recovered the tickets ... so ... what specifically happened between you and Officer Singh that he relinquished the tickets to you?

P.O. EHNES: I just ... I asked ... you know ... if it would be alright my ... Carrie ... that's my wife ... and my son went to the game.

SGT. PEARSON: You asked him if it was okay?

P.O. EHNES: Yeah.

SGT. PEARSON: And his response was?

P.O. EHNES: I guess ... I mean ...

SGT. PEARSON: His response was ... is ...

P.O. EHNES: I don't remember what his exact response was ... I guess I can't speculate ... I don't remember exactly what was said about it.

SGT. PEARSON: But his actions were that he gave you the tickets?

P.O. EHNES: Yes.

SGT. PEARSON: And, what did you then do with the tickets?

P.O. EHNES: I called my wife.

SGT. PEARSON: Okay ... and ...

P.O. EHNES: I did end up giving them to her and Michael.

SGT. PEARSON: Okay ... and ... what did you ... meet her at the ballpark ... you met her ...

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P.O. EHNES: Yeah, I met her on the ... I'm not sure what the streets are ... but on the west side of ballpark there.

SGT. PEARSON: And, was your partner with you at that time?

P.O. EHNES: Yes, I believe so.

SGT. PEARSON: Yes you believe so ... yes or no ... who was with you?

P.O. EHNES: He had to be close by because we never separated, but I'm not sure if he walked up and talked with Carrie and Michael or not.

SGT. PEARSON: So he knew ... he was aware of what you were doing with the tickets?

P.O. EHNES: I would say so, yes. Yes he was.

SGT. PEARSON: So, this phone call you made to your wife, with this set of tickets, when specifically did you make that phone call?

P.O. EHNES: I don't recall.

SGT. PEARSON: Was it during the booking process or ...

P.O. EHNES: I don't have a clue.

SGT. PEARSON: Lieutenant, do you have any questions?

LT. HUELSMANN: Close the tape for a minute ... I got a question to ask ... time is 9:56 AM.

LT. HUELSMANN: This is Lt. Huelsmann. We're resuming the interview with Officer Ehnes. The time is 10:05 AM. I closed the tape about 20 minutes ago because I was confused about some data that I have regarding this investigation in that Officer Ehnes reports that his wife used the two tickets seized on October 25th by a subject named Melvin Hackett to go to the game on the 25th, which was a rain out and then re-scheduled and played on the 27th, on a Friday. And then Officer Ehnes tells us that his wife and son used the two tickets seized by Eric Johnson on the 27th, which was the rain out day, to

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attend that game, which would mean that Officer Ehnes' wife and son actually used four tickets, the two from Melvin Hackett and then the two from Eric Johnson ... so the question that I posed Officer Ehnes during the break in the interview was to clarify that confusion on my part ... so with that said ... Officer Ehnes can you shed some light on this?

P.O. EHNES: I know that I gave my wife two sets of tickets. I mean it doesn't make any sense obviously at all ... four tickets were scanned in ...

LT. HUELSMANN: ... On the 27th.

P.O. EHNES: ... On the 27th ... right ... it's something I guess I'm gonna have to ask her.

LT. HUELSMANN: So the two tickets from Melvin Hackett seized on the 25th, alright it's my understanding that game was ... you know ... the gates were open and people were allowed in on Wednesday, but that game was rained out and rescheduled for Friday the 27th of October. You know the Cardinals data ... the data that we got from the Cardinals office ... is that all four of these tickets we're talking about ... the two from Mr. Hackett and the two from Eric Johnson ... were all scanned in on October 27th ... so ... but you cannot explain that ... indicating to me then that four people used those tickets ...

P.O. EHNES: I'm assuming so ... yes.

LT. HUELSMANN: But you don't have an answer to the question?

P.O. EHNES: No ... I ...

LT. HUELSMANN: Okay ... alright.

SGT. PEARSON: But you still content that in any case, with both arrests, your wife and son received the tickets and attended the game with those tickets?

P.O. EHNES: Yes.

SGT. PEARSON: That is for sure.

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P.O. EHNES: Well ... I'm not sure if the rain-out ... I guess it's the rain-out you guys said ... yes ... so ... I guess maybe they just went and came home or whatever ... but I physically gave her the tickets ... so ...

LT. HUELSMANN: I don't want you to speculate, but is it possible that if you got the two tickets from the rain-out day that you got from suspect Melvin Hackett, that was used on the October 25th game ... you know ... that Wednesday ... could you ... when did you get those two tickets back from your wife ... if you remember ... I don't want you to guess. Did you get them back that Wednesday night?

P.O. EHNES: I'm not 100 percent positive ... I can't guess ... I would assume I got them right back that night.

LT. HUELSMANN: And then would you remember, or do you remember, what you did with them?

P.O. EHNES: I don't remember if I brought them to the office right away or what I did with them.

LT. HUELSMANN: Alright. The idea is that maybe you gave those two tickets to somebody else to use on the Friday night rain-out day.

P.O. EHNES: I didn't give the two tickets to anybody.

LT. HUELSMANN: Alright, okay.

SGT. PEARSON: Anyone else other than your wife and son?

P.O. EHNES: Right. Correct.

LT. HUELSMANN: Alright.

SGT. PEARSON: Officer Ehnes, Mr. Johnson contends that you took his money ... the tickets ... he also accused you of taking the tickets and using the tickets which you have admitted to today ... so ... I guess what we're looking at ... um ... and there is some question as to the four tickets ... when they were used ... um ... when we say you're accused of stealing \$2000 from Mr. Johnson, what would your response be?

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P.O. EHNES: I didn't steal \$2000.

SGT. PEARSON: So ... being that he contends that you took the tickets and we found that to be true ... um ... there's some confusion about the tickets ... you still contend that you did not take Mr. Johnson's money?

P.O. EHNES: I know I didn't take any money.

SGT. PEARSON: Did Officer Singh take Mr. Johnson's money?

P.O. EHNES: No.

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SGT. PEARSON: Do you have any further ... MO Open Records Law / Court Order

LT. HUELSMANN: No.

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SGT. PEARSON: Sergeant, do you have any ...

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SGT. McCLAIN: No.

SGT. PEARSON: Commander ...

CAPTAIN HAYDEN: I just have one other question. When you said that at some point in time you and Singh (inaudible) ... when in front of you all (inaudible) ... if Singh took the money and you actually said that he ... that you know for sure he didn't ... or you said that when he was in your presence (inaudible).

P.O. EHNES: When he was in my presence ... he didn't.

LT. HUELSMANN: But during any contact that you had with Eric Johnson, did he tell you that Officer ... Detective Singh ... or anybody else took money from him?

P.O. EHNES: No ... and I think he ... it should have been on the arrest register and on his property bag ...

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SGT. PEARSON: What's that ...

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TAPED INTERVIEW
OF
POLICE OFFICER MICHAEL EHNES, DSN 5628
DATED
MARCH 15, 2007

P.O. EHNES: ... the money that we had. We weren't seizing it.

LT. HUELSMANN: You're saying he signed the property bag ... is what you're saying?

P.O. EHNES: Right.

LT. HUELSMANN: Our copy of the arrest register indicates ... unless this is a forgery that Det. Singh ... it has Det Singh's DSN with a signature I cannot read ... as being the searching officer for Mr. Johnson ... with 539 and some odd cents seized ... or put into his property. Is that your writing ...

P.O. EHNES: No, that's not mine ...

LT. HUELSMANN: ... on there? Do you recognize that as being Robert Singh's signature?

P.O. EHNES: Yeah.

LT. HUELSMANN: So, do you remember what role you played in the packaging or seizing of Eric Johnson's personal property that's listed on this arrest register?

P.O. EHNES: I don't remember exactly, no. I don't know if I helped get stuff and put it in the bag or ... you know ... we just would have done paperwork and gotten his stuff ... we don't have a set way that we do it ... it's just ...

LT. HUELSMANN: I don't have any other questions.

SGT. PEARSON: This now concludes the interview. The time is now 10:13 AM.

END OF INTERVIEW

DH/5118
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TAPED INTERVIEW
OF
POLICE OFFICER MICHAEL EHNES, DSN 5628
DATED
MARCH 15, 2007

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