# LYCOMING COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS LOCAL RULE L206 COVER SHEET

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA	IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF LYCOMING COUNTY
VS.	
	CRIMINAL LAW DIVISION
KENNETH MICHAELS,	
Defendant.	NO. 1224-CR-2023
<ol> <li>Name of filing party: KENNETH</li> <li>Filing party's attorney: M. F</li> <li>Type of filing: Omnibus Motion</li> <li>The following is/are required:         <ul> <li>[] Issuance of rule to show</li> <li>[X] Argument</li> <li>[X] Evidentiary Hearing</li> <li>[] Court Conference</li> <li>[] Entry of Order in an uncongagreement of the parties:</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	Rudinski & E. Rymsza  cause  ontested matter or upon
[ ] Expedited Consideration:	
5. Time: 1 Day	
6. Name and address of all counse	el of Record and parties:
Michael J. Rudinski Edward J. Ryms 339 Market St. 125 E. Third S Williamsport, PA Williamsport,	St. Lyco. DA Office
ORDEF	3
1 An argument factua	al hearing court
conference is scheduled for	at m. in courtroom
no, Lycoming County Courthous	se, Williamsport, PA.
2 Briefs are to be filed by	the following dates:
Filing party:	
Responding party(ies):	
3 A rule to show cause or ot	ther order is issued as
attached.	
4 A response to the motion/p	etition shall be filed
within days.	
5 Other:	•
Dated:	10-
	, Judge

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA : IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF

: LYCOMING COUNTY, PA

vs.

: CRIMINAL DIVISION

KENNETH R. MICHAELS,

•

Defendant.

: NO. 1224-CR-2023

### OMNIBUS MOTION

Defendant, Kenneth R. Michaels, by and through his undersigned attorneys, files this Omnibus Pre-Trial Motion, pursuant to the Pennsylvania Rules of Criminal Procedure, 42 Pa. C.S.A. § 578 and respectfully represents:

I.

# MOTION TO DISQUALIFY AND RECUSE THE LYCOMING COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

- 1. Petitioner Kenneth Michaels is a 66-year old CEO of Cable Services Company, Inc. with no criminal history of any kind.
- 2. On August 17, 2023, Mr. Michaels' brother-in-law and former CEO, John Roskowski (the "Decedent"), showed up at the business premises unannounced and in an irate state and demanded entry inside the premises to confront Mr. Michaels about his recent exclusion from the business premises.
- 3. On that date, the Decedent was not permitted to be on the business property.
- 4. At the time of the incident, it was a business workday with various employees inside the business premises.

- Mr. Michaels was lawfully inside the building working and not engaged in any criminal activity.
- 5. Upon learning of the Decedent's presence at the front door, Mr. Michaels decided to speak to the Decedent and attempted to diffuse the situation.
- 6. Having been the victim of two prior assaults by the Decedent at the same business premises, upon leaving his office, Mr. Michaels placed a handgun in his pocket for his and his office's protection.
- 7. Upon his arrival at the door, Mr. Michaels opened the locked lobby door in an attempt to speak to his brother-in-law outside the business premises.
- 8. Mr. Michaels immediately told the Decedent he must leave the premises.
- 9. However, undeterred and uninvited, instead of Mr. Michaels exiting the front door, the Decedent maneuvered his way inside the premises.
- 10. When he entered inside the premises, the Decedent was shouting at Mr. Michaels and screaming profanities, including repeatedly calling Mr. Michaels a "fucking coward."
- 11. As the Decedent made his way inside the premises,
  Mr. Michaels retreated and pulled the pistol out of his pocket
  and ordered the Decedent to stop moving further inside the
  premises.

- 12. Mr. Michaels then yelled to one of his employees and instructed them to call 911.
- 13. The Decedent remained incensed and charged towards Mr. Michaels. As a result, Mr. Michaels fired one shot. The Decedent died a short time later at the hospital.
- 14. On August 31, 2023, Mr. Michaels was charged with an open count of Criminal Homicide and one count of Possessing Instruments of Crime.
- 15. A preliminary hearing was held on September 22, 2023 before Magistrate Judge William Solomon and the charges were held for court.
- 16. Upon information and belief, at the time of the incident, then-district attorney candidate Thomas Marino was a close personal friend with the Decedent, and continues to maintain a friendly relationship with the Decedent's family.
- 17. Upon information and belief, on at least one occasion, Mr. Marino assisted driving the Decedent to an inpatient drug treatment facility.
- 18. Upon information and belief, Mr. Marino and his friends and family were frequent social guests of the Decedent in the early to mid-2000's on the Decedent's corporate plane while he was CEO of Cable Services Company, Inc. See Def.'s Ex. 1 (sample of passenger manifest flight records of Cable Services Company).

- 19. Furthermore, the discovery received in this case reveals at least one phone voice mail on the Decedent's personal cell phone from Mr. Marino on June 6, 2023 requesting the Decedent's financial support for his campaign for district attorney.
- 20. That close personal friendship with the Decedent has never been disclosed.
- 21. That close personal friendship with the Decedent and his family were on display in court proceedings and beyond.
- 22. At the time the charges were filed in August 2023, the Lycoming County District Attorney was Ryan C. Gardner.
- 23. At the time of the preliminary hearing, the Commonwealth was represented by First Assistant Martin Wade.
- 24. However, District Attorney Gardner was not present at the preliminary hearing; instead, sitting with ADA Wade at counsel table for the Commonwealth, for reasons unknown, was then-candidate for District Attorney, Thomas Marino.
- 25. Likewise, at the subsequent bail evidentiary hearing held on November 8, 2023, candidate-elect Marino again appeared and sat at counsel table for the prosecution.
- 26. Furthermore, upon information and belief, in early-September 2023, then-candidate Marino and Lycoming County

Detective Sorage engaged in a joint interview of Cable

Services Company employee, Erin Turner at her residence. 1

- 27. According to Ms. Turner, she was asked questions about the shooting incident and related details. See Def.'s Ex. 2 (Turner declaration).
- 28. The interview was recorded by Detective Sorage and after about fifteen minutes he turned off the recorder even though more questions were being asked. Id. at  $\P$  6.
- 29. According to Ms. Turner, the interview concluded by Mr. Marino telling her, among other things, that their conversation was "just between us" and that "we were never here." Id. at  $\P$  8.
- 30. These events aptly demonstrate that then-candidate Marino was personally invested in the process and ultimate outcome of this case.
- 31. A district attorney is not only subject to the Pennsylvania Rules of Professional Conduct but also the American Bar Association Standards of Criminal Justice Relating to the Prosecution Function ("ABA Standard"), which Pennsylvania has adopted. See Pa. R. Prof. Cond. 3.8; Commonwealth v. Starks, 387 A.2d 829, 831 (Pa. 1978) (court

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Mr. Marino's personal involvement in at least one interview in the official investigation indicates he may have had input into charging decisions in this case.

acknowledging Pennsylvania adoption of ABA Standards of Criminal Justice Relating to Prosecution Function).

- 32. Prosecutors must avoid conflicts of interest or even an appearance of a conflict. See ABA Standard 3-1.7; see also National District Attorneys Association, National Prosecution Standards 1-3.1; 1-3.3 (conflicts of interest).
- 33. The prosecutor is an administrator of justice, an advocate, and an officer of the court and should not use improper considerations, such as partisan, political or personal considerations, in exercising prosecutorial discretion. ABA Standard 3.1-2(a); 3.1-6(a).
- 34. As a result of the foregoing, there exists at a minimum an appearance of a conflict, if not an actual conflict.
- 35. Given the Turner interview conducted by thencandidate-Marino with Detective Sorage, which has never been
  disclosed by the prosecution, Mr. Marino has independent
  information about facts in controversy and therefore may be
  faced with the possibility of testifying at trial.
- 36. No assistant district attorney working for the Lycoming County District Attorney could question their boss at trial or any pre-trial hearing without creating a conflict of interest.

- 37. Moreover, the objectivity of the Lycoming County District Attorney's office must be called into question by even permitting Mr. Marino's personal involvement in the case before he had any legitimate and lawful reason to be involved in the case.
- 38. Furthermore, when the elected district attorney is disqualified from a case, the assistant district attorneys whose power to prosecute a case is derived from the constitutional authority of the district attorney have no authority to proceed.
- 39. Consequently, the Court must disqualify the entire Lycoming County District Attorney's Office from prosecuting Mr. Michaels and order that the matter be referred to the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General.

WHEREFORE, prior to any evidentiary hearing, the

Commonwealth should be ordered to file an answer and after an

evidentiary hearing, Mr. Michaels requests that the Court grant

his Motion to Disqualify and Recuse the Lycoming County

District Attorney's Office and order that the case be

transferred to the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General.

II.

#### MOTION TO SUPPRESS STATEMENTS

40. Mr. Michaels repeats and realleges the allegations of paragraphs 1 through 39 above as if set forth here in full.

- 41. As set forth above, 911 was called prior to the incident and first responders arrived shortly thereafter the fatal shot.
- 42. Mr. Michaels exited the building with his hands in the air, told the first officer he saw, Captain Chris Kriner, "he came at me," was handcuffed and placed in the back of a police car and was taken to the Lycoming County Regional Police Department for questioning.
- 43. Upon arrival at the police department, Mr. Michaels was escorted to a windowless interrogation room, empty except for several chairs and a desk and illuminated only by artificial light. Before any interrogation commenced, law enforcement was indisputably aware that Mr. Michaels was the individual who shot and killed the Decedent.
- 44. Detective Justin Segura, who was in plain clothes, but armed, arrived in the interrogation room and sat only a few feet away.
- 45. Immediately upon introducing himself, Detective Segura provided Mr. Michaels with an introduction of what he was expecting of the interrogation. He stated:

So what I want to do is just more or less talk to you a little bit about what happened today and everything that may have led up to today. Okay. So, you know, I was already told that there is already a back story to where you had stuff with John, maybe he had been assaulting you and things like that. So, I'm more -

I - don't know you and I need to know who you are and what all happened, okay. I want to know everything that like - that you feel is relevant for me to know, okay, because it's - just be these brief conversations that I had with my Captain, it sounds like, you know, there is a history there - with John showing up and John assaulting you, you know, so I'd like to know everything that you can possibly share with me, okay. So what I am going to do though is I'm going to read you your Miranda rights, okay.

Interrog. Tr. 2, Aug. 17, 2023.

46. After asking Mr. Michaels if he knew what the Miranda warnings were, Segura stated:

So I'm just going to read this to you. If you have any questions for me whatsoever during - during it just ask, okay. I'm going to do my best to answer any questions that I can for you, all right. So I'm Detective Segura with the Lycoming Regional Police Department and I wish to advise of you the following: You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say can be used against you in a court of law. You have the right to have an attorney present before, during, or after any question if you so desire. If you cannot afford to hire an attorney, one will be appointed to represent you without charge if you so desire. If you desire to answer any questions or make any statements, you may stop at any time you wish. Do you understand your rights?

# <u>Id.</u> at 3.

47. When asked by Detective Segura if he had any questions, Mr. Michaels non-verbally responded with a shake of his head.

- 48. When asked by Detective Segura with these rights in mind, if Mr. Michaels would speak to him, Mr. Michaels did not answer, and merely sighed.
- 49. Mr. Michaels did not agree to waive his  $\underline{\text{Miranda}}$  warnings at that point.
- 50. Observing Mr. Michaels' silence and undeterred to obtain a confession and/or admission, Detective Segura began a lengthy discourse on what he wanted to know about the event and reasons why it was important to discuss it with Mr. Michaels and conversely, why it was important for Mr. Michaels to speak to him.
- 51. Detective Segura revealed to Mr. Michaels the following:

You're probably confused on how you want to answer that, correct? So, this is what I know is that and I'll tell you what I know and what we can do is you can try to fill in the blanks. All right. So I know that there is a history between you and John. John has assaulted you in the past, okay. John was asked to not show up to the property and it sounds like John showed up to the property today. know what happened between the two of you when he arrived and to when the shooting happened, okay. don't know if a fight had happened, if he, you know, assaulted you or tried to or anything like that. I need to know what happened between that moment he entered the door to the moment that we got there. Okay. And you can fill in those blanks. I now the basis of it. I know that, you know. I know that you had shot him and I know that he was asked not to be there. Okay. And, again, with your rights in mind and all this stuff, if there's something that I ask you and you don't want to answer it, you do not have to answer that. Okay. And this is more or

less just a, you know, I need to find out the little details about what happened today and what led up to it. Again, if I ask you something and you don't' want to answer it you don't have to. Okay. So, I just need you to write - write down, yes, you understand and if you are willing to talk to me without an attorney.

# Id. at 4.

- 52. As a direct result of those representations by Segura, Mr. Michaels signed a Miranda waiver form.
- 53. For approximately the next 3 ½ hours Mr. Michaels answered all of Detective Segura's questions, he explained the complete details of the incident, the history of his relationship with the Decedent, including at least two prior incidents in which Mr. Michaels was physically assaulted by the Decedent, his concern for his and his employee's safety, and his unwavering account that he was acting in self-defense.
- 54. Prior to the end of the interrogation, Detective Segura requested to seize and search Mr. Michaels' phone. Mr. Michaels acquiesced.
- Detective Segura also notified Mr. Michaels that the "DA's office hasn't made a decision yet on what they want to to do, okay . . . it could go both ways. We don't know yet. It's gonna be on the outcome of what we find on your phone to, you know, other interviews that we do and stuff like that, you know, whether it was say justifiable or not, okay. So, but .

District Attorney's Office to make that determination . . . . But once I do find out, I will be in contact with you and call you, okay?" Id. at 98-99.

- 56. Mr. Michaels was released from custody that day.
- 57. The entire interrogation was audio and videotaped.
- 58. The following day, Detective Segura received a phone call from James Clancy, Esq. who identified himself as counsel for Mr. Michaels. Mr. Clancy and Detective Segura spoke again the following business day, Monday, August 21, 2023, at which time Mr. Clancy repeated that he represented Mr. Michaels.
- 59. Notwithstanding knowing the identity of counsel for Mr. Michaels a week earlier, on August 25, 2023 Detective Segura requested to interview Mr. Michaels a second time.
- 60. Instead of calling Mr. Michaels' lawyer, Segura directly called Mr. Michaels and requested him to come back for more follow-up questioning. Mr. Michaels purportedly agreed.
- 61. Learning of this development from Mr. Michaels, Mr. Clancy called Detective Segura and reminded him that he represented Mr. Michaels as well as his firm's representation of Cable Services.
- 62. According to Detective Segura, Mr. Clancy stated to him that he advised Mr. Michaels not to speak to law enforcement, but that Mr. Michaels would likely come in to

speak to them around 2 p.m. Mr. Clancy advised Detective Segura that he would not be able to be present for this meeting. No other details about who would be present were provided by Detective Segura.

- 63. At approximately 2:15 p.m. on August 25, 2023, Mr. Michaels appeared at Lycoming County Regional Police Department alone.
- 64. This time, Detective Stephen Sorage of the Lycoming County District Attorney's Office appeared with Detective Segura.
- 65. The interrogation occurred in the same room as the prior interrogation.
  - 66. Detective Sorage lead the interrogation on this day.
- 67. Detective Sorage introduced himself and immediately told Mr. Michaels that "you came in voluntarily. Nobody forced you to be here. You don't have to talk to us at all if you don't want to. You understand that. And I and I understand that you've had you talked to an attorney and the attorney talked to Detective Segura." Interrog. Tr. at 2-3, Aug. 25, 2023.
- 68. Detective Sorage reiterated several times to Mr. Michaels that he did not need to talk to them and he could leave at any time. Id. at 3.

- 69. Detective Sorage told Mr. Michaels "I'm not going to read you your Miranda rights because that usually applies when someone is in custody. You're not in custody. Id.
- 70. Immediately, however, after stating that he was not in custody, Detective Sorage gave an impromptu and truncated version of Miranda, stating "[b]ut you understand your rights. You don't have to talk to us. You can stop . . . anytime you want. If you want an attorney, you want to walk out the door, you're free to go." Id.
- 71. For approximately the next hour, Detective Sorage questioned Mr. Michaels about the events.
- 72. Mr. Michaels was offered water, coffee and false camaraderie by Detective Sorage, discussing among other things, hunting and favorite Italian restaurants.
- 73. Like the first interrogation, Mr. Michaels provided similar details of the tragic events of August 17, 2023.
- 74. The officers requested access to Mr. Michaels' business and residence. Mr. Michaels' acquiesced.
- 75. At the conclusion of the interrogation, Mr. Michaels thanked the officers for their service generally and described in no uncertain terms his unwavering support and admiration for law enforcement. <u>Id.</u> at 86-86.
- 76. Detective Sorage concluded the interrogation by asking Mr. Michaels if "we treated you fairly? [and] "[h]ave

you had any problem with how you've been treated by us? . . . By Lycoming Regional? . . . By anybody here?" Id. at 87.

- 77. At the conclusion of the interrogation, Detectives Sorage and Segura advised Mr. Michaels he could call his lawyer from the lobby where it would not be recorded so he could speak to him "privately." Id. at 87-88.
- 78. Detective Sorage concluded by saying "[h]ey, Ken, be sure and tell him that we were chit chatting about hunting and Italian restaurants for quite a while." Id. at 88-89.
- 79. All of the alleged statements were obtained in violation of Mr. Michaels' Fifth, Sixth and Fourteenth Amendment rights of the United States Constitution and Article I, Section Nine of the Pennsylvania Constitution and must be suppressed.
- 80. The <u>Miranda</u> warnings themselves that were provided to Mr. Michaels on August 17, 2023 were deficient. Mr. Michaels was not read complete and accurate <u>Miranda</u> warnings as required by law by failing to advise him that any statement he makes will be used against him in court.
- 81. The administering of the  $\underline{\text{Miranda}}$  warnings and statements that followed were deficient and invalidated any subsequent waiver.
- 82. Detective Segura told Mr. Michaels that there would be an interview of him to understand what happened in the

incident, in which it was implied that he was expected to participate and cooperate.

- 83. The <u>Miranda</u> warnings were read in a perfunctory manner, designed to de-emphasize the warnings and minimize them, and treat them as nothing more than a mere formality.
- Miranda warnings were designed to coax Mr. Michaels into speaking to the police by creating the false perception that law enforcement was only interested in hearing Mr. Michaels' side of the story and to "to fill in the blanks" and to "more or less . . . find out little details" about the incident.
- 85. Mr. Michaels did not knowingly, willingly or voluntarily waive his <u>Miranda</u> rights when making any postarrest statements.
- 86. "Any evidence that the accused was threatened, tricked, or cajoled into a waiver will, of course, show that the defendant did not voluntarily waive his privilege."

  Miranda v. Arizona, 384 U.S. 436, 476 (1966).
- 87. The subsequent interrogation on August 25, 2023, should be suppressed as the fruit of that initial interrogation.
- 88. The statements obtained as a result of the second interrogation should also be suppressed as they were obtained by law enforcement from Mr. Michaels whom they and the Lycoming

County District Attorney's Office knew was represented by counsel.

- 89. Rule 4.2 of the Pennsylvania Rules of Professional Conduct preclude lawyers from communicating with a party who is represented by counsel. These ethical requirements are imputed to law enforcement if they attempt to communicate with represented persons as part of a law enforcement investigation.
- 90. In addition, any purported waiver of Mr. Michaels right to counsel/right to remain silent during the second interrogation was invalid since any alleged waiver was never waived in counsel's presence.
- 91. Furthermore, Mr. Michaels did not voluntarily make any statements in either interrogation, but rather, they resulted from improper physical and psychological pressure, calculated coercive and deceptive tactics by law enforcement and were not the result of free will.

WHEREFORE, Mr. Michaels requests that the Court grant his Motion to Suppress and preclude the introduction of the statements and any evidence derived from it at trial.

III.

#### MOTION TO SUPPRESS PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

92. Mr. Michaels repeats and realleges the allegations of paragraphs 1 through 91 above as if set forth here in full.

- 93. During his initial interrogation, upon request of the police, Mr. Michaels was asked to furnish certain personal information for his cellphone and to allow them to search it.

  Mr. Michaels acquiesced in that request.
- 94. During the second interrogation, police asked for permission to make a warrantless search of the business premises and his office. Mr. Michaels acquiesced.
- 95. As a result of these warrantless searches, certain items were taken into evidence.
- 96. In addition, as a result of obtaining his phone, law enforcement conducted a warrantless ping on Mr. Michaels' telephone number.
- 97. Detective Segura was aware that Mr. Michaels and his wife had Labor Day travel plans, as they intended to go to Cape May, New Jersey on Thursday evening. Detective Segura had no objection to Mr. Michaels making that trip to Cape May.
- 98. An arrest warrant was prepared and a team was assembled to take Mr. Michaels into custody at his residence.
- 99. However, law enforcement did a warrantless "ping" on his phone and learned that Mr. Michaels was in Cape May. As a result, a fugitive warrant was issued.
- 100. Contrary to Detective Segura's promise at the end of the first interrogation, he did not contact Mr. Michaels after the district attorney's office made its decision about the

case; nor did law enforcement or the district attorney's office accept an offer from Attorney Clancy to have Mr. Michaels self-surrender if charges were filed.

- 101. Instead, Mr. Michaels was located at his vacation home in Cape May, New Jersey and was seized and taken into custody.
- 102. Mr. Michaels' Fourth and Fourteenth Amendment rights of the United States Constitution and Article I, Section 8 of the Pennsylvania Constitution were violated.
- 103. Any purported consent by Mr. Michaels that was obtained during these interrogations were not knowingly, voluntarily and intelligently made, but rather was the result of physical and psychological coercion and other illegalities by law enforcement.
- 104. A warrant was required to perform a ping on Mr. Michaels' phone to determine his location. The warrantless ping violated Mr. Michaels' privacy interest in his location and there was no exception to the warrant requirement that could justify this warrantless search and seizure.
- 105. Accordingly, any evidence seized in violation of the various illegal searches and seizures, and all derivative fruits thereof, must be suppressed.

WHEREFORE, Mr. Michaels requests that the Court grant his motion to suppress any physical evidence and preclude the

introduction of that evidence and any evidence derived from it at trial.

#### IV.

# MOTION TO DISMISS INFORMATION FOR THE COMMONWEALTH'S WITHHOLDING AND/OR DESTRUCTION OF BRADY INFORMATION

- 106. Mr. Michaels repeats and realleges the allegations of paragraphs 1 through 105 above as if set forth here in full.
- 107. As set forth above, Detective Sorage and the then-candidate Marino, met with an employee of Cable Services, Erin Turner, daughter-in-law of former Lycoming County Detective Donald Turner, on September 8, 2023.
- 108. Upon information and belief, that interview commenced as an audio recorded interview by Detective Sorage and after approximately 15 minutes he turned the recorder off.
- 109. According to Ms. Turner, Mr. Marino stated "this is just between us. It doesn't leave this room. We were never here." Def's Ex. 2 (Turner Decl. ¶¶ 7-8).
- 110. Keeping with the Commonwealth's aim to avoid transparency, to date, that audio interview has never been furnished to the defense.
- 111. To date, no investigative report and/or notes of that interview have ever been furnished to the defense.
- 112. To date, no report of any kind even documenting this interview has ever been furnished.

- 113. Moreover, early in this case, on September 15, 2023, counsel for the defense filed a motion to preserve evidence.
- 114. In that motion, among other things, counsel requested that a court order be entered to preserve certain evidence, including any law enforcement handwritten notes.
- 115. The Court entered an order granting that request on September 19, 2023.
- 116. In addition, to the foregoing evidence, the video of the interrogations of Mr. Michaels shows that Detective Segura took notes during those interrogations.
- 117. Detective Segura acknowledged at the bail hearing he took notes, but believed that he later destroyed them. He could not provide details on when that destruction occurred. See Bail Hr'g Tr. at 34, Nov. 8, 2023.
- 118. "When evidence is destroyed, one may infer its contents were unfavorable to the possessor." <u>United States v.</u>
  Kincaid, 712 F.2d 1, 3 (1st Cir. 1983).
- 119. The prosecution has a duty under <u>Brady v. Maryland</u>,
  373 U.S. 83 (1963) to disclose all evidence the prosecution
  possesses that is material to a defendant's guilt or punishment.
- 120. The audio recording of any potential prosecution witness and/or reports of that interview constitute <a href="Brady">Brady</a> evidence.

- 121. Rough notes of interviews may constitute <u>Brady</u>
  material. <u>See United States v. Ramos</u>, 27 F.3d 65, 68 (3d Cir.
  1994); <u>United States v. Pelullo</u>, 105 F.3d 117, 123 (3d Cir.
  1997) (conviction reversed because <u>Brady</u> information not included in the FBI 302 report was contained in the undisclosed rough notes of the FBI agent).
- 122. The destruction, suppression, withholding or failure to disclose this <u>Brady</u> material should not be countenanced, especially in a murder case. <u>See, e.g., Commonwealth v. Smith</u>, 615 A.2d 321 (Pa. 1992) (imposing dismissal with prejudice in murder case where prosecutor deliberately concealed exculpatory evidence); <u>Roth v. United States DOJ</u>, 642 F.3d 1161, 1176 (D.C. Cir. 2011) (court noting the more serious the case, the greater degree of scrutiny is required to determine if Brady violation occurred).
- 123. In addition, the Pennsylvania Rules of Professional Conduct 3.8 as well as the ABA's Standards for Prosecution Function Rule 3.5.4-5 require disclosure of exculpatory evidence broader than Brady. See ABA Formal Opinion 09-454.
- 124. Moreover, Mr. Michaels has a Sixth Amendment right to the effective assistance of counsel at all times. Counsel cannot effectively represent Mr. Michaels when the prosecution interferes with their ability to do so. See Strickland v. Washington, 466 U.S. 668, 686 (1984) ("Government violates the

right to effective assistance when it interferes in certain ways with the ability of counsel to make independent decisions about how to conduct the defense.").

WHEREFORE, Mr. Michaels requests that the requested items be disclosed immediately and an evidentiary hearing be held on the matter and requests that the Court grant the motion to dismiss the Information.

V.

## MOTION TO EXCLUDE VIDEO AND PHOTOGRAPHS

- 125. Mr. Michaels repeats and realleges the allegations of paragraphs 1 through 124 above as if set forth here in full.
- 126. It is anticipated that the Commonwealth intends to produce numerous photographs of the decedent at the crime scene and from the autopsy.
- 127. Mr. Michaels avers that the admission of a surplusage of videotape and photographs of the decedent at the crime scene and at the autopsy would only serve to inflame the passions of the jury and cause him undue prejudice.
- 128. Mr. Michaels does not contest the cause or manner of death of the decedent.
- 129. Mr. Michaels further contends that the medical witnesses through the use of anatomical drawings or anatomical exhibits can accurately describe the injuries to the victims, if necessary.

WHEREFORE, it is requested that the Court grant his Motion to Exclude the videotape and photographs at trial.

VI.

# MOTION TO PRECLUDE ENHANCED SECURITY MEASURES OUTSIDE AND INSIDE OF THE COURTROOM

- 130. Mr. Michaels repeats and realleges the allegations of paragraphs 1 through 129 above as if set forth here in full.
- 131. Upon entry to the Lycoming County Courthouse, sophisticated security measures are utilized including x-ray screening, metal detectors, and armed uniformed deputies from the Lycoming County Sheriff's Office.
- 132. Historically, for homicide cases in this county, a second level of security is used upon immediate entry into the courtroom, including a second metal detector.
- 133. Likewise, during trial, several armed sheriff deputies are seated throughout the courtroom and directly near the defendant.
- 134. Excessive security invites the jury to infer from the overall security that a court has concerns about danger to the jury.
- 135. The plain implication of the excessive security will be that Mr. Michaels is a dangerous individual.
- 136. Excessive courtroom security may violate a defendant's due process rights. See Holbrook v. Flynn, 475 U.S. 560 (1986).

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons Mr. Michaels requests that the Court preclude the use of the second set of metal detectors and security outside the courtroom and realign security in the courtroom to avoid prejudice and any other relief the Court deems just and proper.

#### VII.

## MOTION FOR INDIVIDUAL VOIR DIRE

- 137. Mr. Michaels repeats and realleges the allegations of paragraphs 1 through 136 above as if set forth here in full.
- 138. Emotionally charged and prejudicial publicity has appeared in the local media describing, among other things, the alleged crime, the deceased and the crime scene.
- 139. This case will continue to be the subject of regular unfavorable press and media coverage which will be prejudicial to Mr. Michaels.
- 140. Mr. Michaels is entitled to a jury which has no preconceived notions, free of any animus and prejudice, and which will base its verdict solely on the evidence, the arguments of counsel, and the law as given to them by the Court.
- 141. Mr. Michaels should be entitled to individual voir dire and to an in-depth examination of the pretrial publicity and the sensitive subject matter involved in order to ensure

that he is tried by a jury with absolutely no pre-conceived prejudices, either hidden or expressed.

- 142. The fairest and most expeditious manner to accomplish these requirements is for the trial court to conduct the voir dire examination of each prospective juror individually.
- 143. Rule 631(F) of the Pennsylvania Rules of Criminal Procedure specifically permits individual voir dire in non-capital cases.
- 144. When sitting jurors are exposed to prejudicial media publicity and other sensitive issues, the trial court is required to make a careful examination of each juror out of the presence of the other jurors, to determine the effect of those issues.
- 145. To ensure that a fair and impartial jury panel is obtained, this requirement should be extended to the potential jurors as well.
- 146. A voir dire examination of potential jurors in the presence of the entire venire panel is likely to result in tainting the entire panel, should the improper knowledge or opinion of a potential juror be improvidently expressed.

WHEREFORE, Mr. Michaels requests that the Court grant his Motion for Individual Voir Dire and Sequestration of Jurors.

#### VIII.

## MOTION TO SUPPRESS IN-COURT IDENTIFICATION

- 147. Mr. Michaels repeats and realleges the allegations of paragraphs 1 through 146 above as if set forth here in full.
- 148. There is no dispute that Mr. Michaels shot the Decedent.
- 149. Thus, any in-court identification of Mr. Michaels amounts to nothing more than prejudicial courtroom theatre and should be precluded.
- 150. An in-court identification while Mr. Michaels is sitting at counsel table with his attorneys are, like one-person showups, inherently suggestive. A number of federal courts have recognized this prejudice. See United States v. States v. Emanuele, 51 F.3d 1123, 1130 (3d Cir. 1995); United States v. Archibald, 734 F.2d 938, 941-42 (2d Cir. 1984).

WHEREFORE, Mr. Michaels requests that the Court grant his Motion to suppress all identification evidence at trial.

#### IX.

# MOTION TO COMPEL DISCLOSURE OF EXISTENCE OF AND SUBSTANCE OF PROMISES OF IMMUNITY, LENIENCY OR PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT AND CRIMINAL HISTORY

- 151. Mr. Michaels repeats and realleges the allegations of paragraphs 1 through 150 above as if set forth here in full.
- 152. In his discovery request, Mr. Michaels requested that he be provided with the names and addresses and substance of all

persons who have been offered immunity, favorable consideration, leniency, or favorable treatment.

- 153. To date, no such discovery has been provided.
- 154. Mr. Michaels is entitled to all formal plea agreements reached with any of the Commonwealth witnesses, together with all informal discussion, express or implied, regarding any rewards, promises, immunity, favorable consideration, leniency, or favorable treatment in exchange for their testimony and the substance of their arrangements.
- 155. Disclosure of preferential treatment of any kind and nature is essential to the defense and for effective cross-examination to establish motive or bias of Commonwealth witnesses.
- 156. Furthermore, in his request, Mr. Michaels requested that the Commonwealth produce all evidence in their possession or available to them, of any prior arrest or convictions of all persons the Commonwealth intends to call as a witness at trial.
- 157. To date, the Commonwealth has provided some of criminal history of its witnesses, but not all of them or is otherwise incomplete.
- 158. Disclosure is essential to Mr. Michaels' defense and to effective cross-examination of Commonwealth witnesses.

WHEREFORE, Mr. Michaels requests that the Court enter an Order requiring the Commonwealth to immediately disclose all of the foregoing information.

Χ.

# MOTION FOR DISCLOSURE OF OTHER CRIMES, WRONGS, OR ACTS PURSUANT TO PA. R. EVID. 404(b)

- 159. Mr. Michaels repeats and realleges the allegations of paragraphs 1 through 158 above as if set forth here in full.
- 160. Mr. Michaels requests that the Court issue an order requiring the Commonwealth to disclose to him any evidence which may be admissible at trial pursuant to Pa. R. Evid. \$ 404(b), including:
- a. the existence, nature and dates of any other crimes, wrongs or prior or subsequent bad acts of defendant not charged in the Information;
- b. whether the Commonwealth intends to offer evidence of any other crimes, wrongs, or prior or subsequent bad acts against defendant during the trial of the instant Information:
- c. the names and addresses of all witnesses intended to be called by the Commonwealth to offers such evidence;
- d. any reports or statements of any such witnesses; and,

e. any documentary or physical evidence or exhibits intended to be offered against defendant in this regard.

WHEREFORE, Mr. Michaels requests that the Court order the Commonwealth to disclose the foregoing 404(b) evidence.

XI.

## MOTION FOR REQUEST OF TIMELY NOTICE OF ANY EXPERT TESTIMONY

- 161. Mr. Michaels repeats and realleges the allegations of paragraphs 1 through 160 above as if set forth here in full.
- 162. To the extent the Commonwealth will be relying on any expert testimony during trial, Mr. Michaels specifically requests from the Commonwealth any and all information upon which any individual called to testify as an expert.
- 163. Mr. Michaels is therefore requesting copies of, to wit:
  - a. Notice and disclosure of each expert witness consulted in the instant matter, including:
    - 1. Name and title;
    - 2. Profession or occupation and the field in which he/she is allegedly an expert;
    - 3. Formal education and training, including the name and address of each school where special education or training was received in this field, the dates of said education

- and training; the name or description of each degree received;
- 4. Membership in any professional or trade association in the relevant field;
- 5. Authorship of any books, papers, or articles, including the title and subject matter;
- 6. Other cases in which the witness has been qualified as an expert or not qualified;
- 7. The particular facts and ground upon which the expert will rely for his/her opinion;
- 8. The results or conclusions reached by each expert consulted in the instant matter, including written reports, oral opinions, including the date thereof and to whom reported.
- 164. These items requested are material to the proper and effective defense of Mr. Michaels, are discoverable pursuant to Rule 573(B) of the Pennsylvania Rules of Criminal Procedure and are reasonable in light of the fact that the items are within the prosecution's possession, or can be easily obtained by them.

165. The denial to Mr. Michaels of the information requested would constitute a denial of due process and would be contrary to the interests of justice.

WHEREFORE, it is respectfully requested that the Court grant the request for timely disclosure of expert testimony.

#### XII.

#### MOTION FOR DISCOVERY

- 166. Mr. Michaels repeats and realleges the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 165 above as if set forth here in full.
- 167. As set forth above, after Mr. Michaels' second interrogation, he made a call to his lawyer outside of the interrogation room and in the Lycoming County Regional Police lobby.
- 168. As part of the discovery in this case, counsel for Mr. Michaels have received video and audio discovery from that same police department's lobby on August 17, 2023.
- 169. Those videos contain audible conversations from those individuals waiting in the lobby.
- 170. No video has been provided by the prosecution from the lobby on August 25, 2023.
- 171. Therefore, counsel is uncertain if law enforcement has retained, viewed and/or listened to Mr. Michaels' private phone conversation with counsel.

- 172. If the prosecution has this evidence, it must be disclosed immediately as any statements by Mr. Michaels constitute mandatory discovery under Rule 573(b)(1) of the Pennsylvania Rules of Criminal Procedure.
- 173. Upon receipt of any such recording, counsel will need to determine if a subsequent appropriate motion is warranted.

WHEREFORE, it is respectfully requested that the Court grant the motion for discovery.

#### XIII.

#### MOTION TO RESERVE RIGHT

- 174. Mr. Michaels repeats and realleges the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 173 above as if set forth here in full.
- 175. Mr. Michaels avers that there may be additional discovery that has not been received.
- 176. Since there may be additional discovery and the need for additional investigation and preparation to provide effective assistance of counsel, Mr. Michaels requests the right to make any additional pre-trial motions pursuant to Rule 579 of the Pennsylvania Rules of Criminal Procedure.

WHEREFORE, Mr. Michaels requests this Court to grant his Motion to Reserve Right to make any additional pre-trial motions.

Dated: March 29, 2024

RUDINSKI, ORSO & ASSOCIATES

By: s/Michael J. Rudinski
Michael J. Rudinski, Esq.
Pa. I.D. No. 37971
Attorney for Defendant
339 Market Street
Williamsport, PA 17701
(570)321-8090

MIELE & RYMSZA, P.C.

By: s/Edward J. Rymsza
Edward J. Rymsza, Esq.
Pa. I.D. No. 82911
Attorney for Defendant
125 East Third Street
Williamsport, PA 17701
(570) 322-2113
(570) 322-8813 (facsimile)
Rymsza@comcast.net

## PROOF OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 29th day of March 2024, I served the foregoing Omnibus Motion upon Martin Wade, Esq.,
Office of the Lycoming County District Attorney, by electronic mail.

RUDINSKI, ORSO & ASSOCIATES

By: s/Michael J. Rudinski
Michael J. Rudinski, Esq.
Pa. I.D. No. 37971
Attorney for Defendant
339 Market Street
Williamsport, PA 17701
(570)321-8090

MIELE & RYMSZA, P.C.

By: s/Edward J. Rymsza
Edward J. Rymsza, Esq.
Pa. I.D. No. 82911
Attorney for Defendant
125 East Third Street
Williamsport, PA 17701
(570)322-2113
(570) 322-8813 (facsimile)
Rymsza@comcast.net

## VERIFICATION

We hereby certify that the facts set forth in the foregoing motion are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I understand that false statements made herein are subject to the penalties set forth in 18 Pa. C.S.A. § 4904, relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

Dated: 3/29/24

s/Michael J. Rudinski
Michael J. Rudinski

s/Edward J. Rymsza Edward J. Rymsza

## CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

We hereby certify that this filing complies with the provisions of the Public Access Policy of the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania: Case Records of the Appellate and Trial Courts that require filing confidential information and documents differently than non-confidential information and documents.

Dated: 3/29/2024

s/Michael J. Rudinski Michael J. Rudinski

s/Edward J. Rymsza
Edward J. Rymsza

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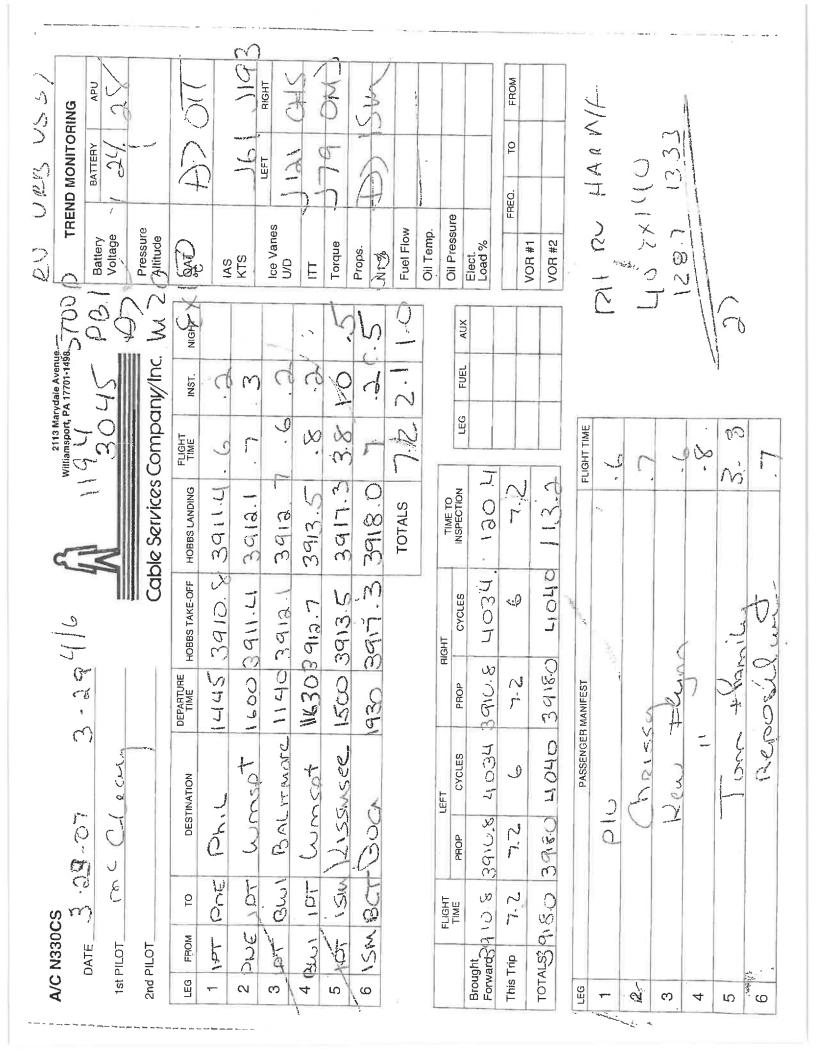
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## **DECLARATION**

- I, Erin Turner, state as follows:
  - 1. I have been employed at Cable Services Company, Inc., since June 12, 2023.
  - 2. I was at work on August 17, 2023, but did not hear or see anything connected to the shooting that took place at the Company office that day.
  - 3. On or about September 8, 2023, I was asked by my father-in-law, former Lycoming County Detective Donald Turner, if I would talk to Tom Marino. I was told Mr. Marino was "talking to people" about the investigation into the shooting that resulted in the death of John Roskowski by Kenneth Michaels, CEO of Cable Services, and that Mr. Marino was looking for information "to help Ken." I agreed.
  - 4. On September 8, 2023, Mr. Marino came to my home. He was accompanied by Lycoming County Detective Steven Sorage.
    Detective Sorage interviewed me and recorded the interview.
  - 5. From Detective Sorage's questions, it did not seem that he was looking for information "to help Ken." Instead, he was asking questions that seemed to favor John Roskowski. He also



asked questions about where Jeremy Michaels, President of
Cable Services, and son of Ken Michaels, was during the
shooting. He also asked whether Ken Michaels carried a
firearm at the office. With each of my answers, Detective
Sorage made facial expressions that indicated he did not agree
with my answers.

- 6. After about 15 minutes, Detective Sorage turned the recorder off. Mr. Marino then asked if the employees at the Company liked both John and Ken.
- 7. I asked if the recorder should be on for those questions.

  Detective Sorage asked Mr. Marino if the recorder should be on. Mr. Marino answered, "No." Detective Sorage said if there were more questions he wanted recorded he would turn the recorder on or jot down notes.
- 8. The interview ended with Mr. Marino saying, "This is just between us. It doesn't leave this room. We were never here."
- 9. The facts set forth above are true and correct to the best of my personal knowledge, information, and belief, subject to 18 Pa. CSA 4904.

10. I have made the foregoing statements freely, voluntarily, and intelligently.

Erin Turner

Date