

1 TAPED TRANSCRIPT OF MIKE KOZAK
2 INTERVIEW CONDUCTED BY CORPORAL MELICH
3 CASE NUMBER – 08-069208
4 JULY 30, 2008
5 YM – CORPORAL YURI MELICH
6 MK – MR. MIKE KOZAK

7 YM: The date is July 30, 2008. The time is 1155. Uh, case number 08-69208. I'm
8 going to try calling a Mike Kozak, C-O-Z-A-C-K (correct spelling is K-O-Z-A-K), at
9 uh, [REDACTED] He used to be a co-worker of Casey Anthony.

10 (Sound of telephone dialing.)

11 MK: Hello?

12 YM: Hello, may I speak to Mike Kozak please?

13 MK: Speaking.

14 YM: Hey, this is Detective Melich. I'm with the Orange County Sheriff's Office.

15 MK: Hey there.

16 YM: How are you?

17 MK: Well, I've been watching that case.

18 YM: Yeah (affirmative). Did I catch you at a bad time?

19 MK: Nope (negative).

20 YM: I was wondering if I can sit down and kind of (unintelligible) and kind of chat with
21 you here over the phone real quick and uh, maybe pick your brain on some stuff
22 that may help us out.

23 MK: Sure.

24 YM: Casey Anthony, she used to work for you?

25 MK: She did.

1 **YM:** When?

2 **MK:** Uh, let's see I was in charge of (inaudible). So for, I think she came on '04, '05

3 timeframe I guess.

4 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

5 **MK:** I'm bad on dates.

6 **YM:** That's fine.

7 **MK:** Anyway, (sighs), what it was was uh, I love the news media. And they jump on

8 the thing and say oh, she worked at Universal, but then she never did. Well she

9 never really worked for Universal. She was working for Kodak. And Kodak held

10 a photo imagining contract at Universal.

11 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

12 **MK:** Now we actually thought kind of highly of her. We had her in a manager trainee

13 program.

14 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

15 **MK:** And uh, she was put in with me so I could teach her the ropes and all that. And

16 you know, a nice personality. Got along with the crew and all that. She was

17 young. And I remember having to talk to her one time about you can't manage

18 people during the day and go out and party with them at night.

19 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

20 **MK:** Then uh, (sighs), let's see, as I recall she got pregnant and then uhm, I'm

21 assuming, I mean I've had ladies that were pregnant working with me before.

22 And I assumed that she got a doctor's note saying that uh, she couldn't handle

23 the, staying on her feet all day. So we had moved her into the Kodak office.

24 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

25

1 **MK:** And she was doing light duty work and filing and working with the personnel
2 people on uh, applications and that sort of thing. And uh, (sighs), let's see. She
3 went off, had the kid. I remember her coming in with the kid to the office. And
4 then it's like she just disappeared. I mean just gone. And uh, I believe Kodak
5 just filed paperwork saying uh, that she was terminated for job abandonment.

6 **YM:** Hmm.

7 **MK:** And, and then (sighs), what caught my ear was I walked in and uh, it was-actually
8 the day that y'all went to court for the bond hearing.

9 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

10 **MK:** And uh, they had uh, oh, the, the Fox News channel was playing it. And then
11 uhm, what caught my ear was when uhm, the mother was saying, "Yeah
12 (affirmative), she worked for Kodak in Color Vision, and got, Color Vision fired
13 her." I was like, "Well, not really," because uhm, (sighs), about, I'd say ninety
14 percent of the management and staff that were in with Kodak came over to Color
15 Vision during the uh, contract switch over. And part of that process was the
16 Color Vision guys held uhm, uh, employment seminars on the Universal property.

17 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

18 **MK:** And you had to, if you were a Kodak employee and you wanted to come to Color
19 Vision you had to come to one of those seminars and you know, fill out the
20 application and get on file and all that stuff. And uh, Casey Anthony never
21 showed up.

22 **YM:** She never transferred to Color Vision?

23 **MK:** No, she was never a Color Vision employee.

24 **YM:** Did you transfer over?

25 **MK:** Oh, yeah (affirmative).

1 **YM:** Okay. Do you know how long uh, what the time period was when she was
2 actually working for you or, or working with you, uhm, working for Kodak?
3 **MK:** Well uhm, (sighs), uh....
4 **YM:** You can give me a ball park if you don't remember.
5 **MK:** Several months, you know. Uhm, I want to say five, six months maybe.
6 **YM:** Okay. Do you know or do you recall any other employees that used to work with
7 Casey uhm, through Kodak, or maybe even afterwards through Color Vision by
8 the name of Jeff Hopkins or Juliette Lewis? Any of those ring a bell?
9 **MK:** Not really.
10 **YM:** What about uh, Heather McDonald?
11 **MK:** Yeah (affirmative).
12 **YM:** What was uh, what was Heather (inaudible).
13 **MK:** Heather McDonald was a uh, she was an hourly employee and then got in as an
14 assistant manager with Kodak.
15 **YM:** Okay.
16 **MK:** And then uh, (sighs)....
17 **YM:** Do you know if she and Casey were close?
18 **MK:** I know they were uh, no. No, I mean you know, they'd talk and all that. But uh,
19 as far as whether they were close, close, no idea.
20 **YM:** Okay. And just to confirm again, Jeff Hopkins, H-O-P-K-I-N-S, or Juliette Lewis,
21 neither one of those ring a bell as far as?
22 **MK:** Yeah (affirmative), it doesn't really ring a bell right now.
23 **YM:** Anyone that worked for you while you worked for Kodak or Color Vision?
24 **MK:** No. I mean they might have. You know, in that environment you can run through
25 some employees.

1 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).
2 **MK:** Uhm...
3 **YM:** What about uh, Thomas Franck, F-R-A-N-C-K? That name ring a bell?
4 **MK:** I want to say yes, but I can't tell you why.
5 **YM:** Okay. And just because it's a common name, or?
6 **MK:** Yeah (affirmative), it's just a, nothing stands out. I'll tell you, to be honest with
7 you.
8 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).
9 **MK:** Even uh, when uh, y'all arrested her and you know, she showed up on the news
10 and there's that shot of her wearing the, a blue uh, hooded top....
11 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).
12 **MK:** ...walking in with her hands, hands 'cuffed and all that? I was watching the news
13 that night with my wife and, "Man that girl looks familiar." And then it, the next
14 day it hit me. So I'm....
15 **YM:** Hmm.
16 **MK:** ...like, "My God that (inaudible) used to work over at uh, at the park there."
17 **YM:** So after she had the kid uh, you only saw her once in passing when she brought
18 the kid up and then did she....
19 **MK:** Brought her in the office, Kodak office.
20 **YM:** Right.
21 **MK:** And uh, that was it.
22 **YM:** Off the top of your head, and I know I'm asking a lot.
23 **MK:** Oh....
24 **YM:** Uhm...
25 **MK:** ...ask away.

1 **YM:** Do you recall anyone she was close to while she worked with you guys?
2 Someone that uh, that we can maybe reach out to if I haven't done so already to
3 ask questions about Casey?
4 **MK:** Uh, sorry (sighs), I can't, I can't help you there. Uh, and nothing comes to mind.
5 **YM:** Okay.
6 **MK:** Just like I don't even know who the father was. And you know...
7 **YM:** She never mentioned anything about uh, how she got pregnant or you catch
8 anything?
9 **MK:** No (sighs), uh, I just never, never asked her.
10 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).
11 **MK:** Uh, I figured it wasn't my business. Uhm, all I know is she showed up one day
12 and said, "Well, you know, I'm pregnant." I was like, "Well you got to bring in a
13 doctor's note."
14 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).
15 **MK:** "And then I got to call Personnel and make them aware of it."
16 **YM:** Okay. Well hey, uhm, Mr. Kozak, I do appreciate uh, you reaching out to me and
17 uhm, I appreciate you taking the time out to talk to me today.
18 **MK:** Oh, no problem. Uh...
19 **YM:** And uh, if you remember anything else, or anything comes up that uhm, you feel
20 might be important you have my number, right?
21 **MK:** I've got your extension.
22 **YM:** That'll work.
23 **MK:** Uhm, you know, I'm just, I hope this uh, gets settled but I don't think it'll turn out
24 really nicely.
25 **YM:** Well we're hoping for the best.

1 MK: Uh, yeah (affirmative), uh, okay.
2 YM: Thank you very much Mr. Kozak.
3 MK: Alright sir.
4 YM: You have a good day.
5 MK: Take care.
6 YM: 'Bye-bye. And the time right now is 1203.

7 **End of recorded statement.**

8 **This transcript has been reviewed for accuracy.**

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CORPORAL YURI MELICH, OCSO DEPUTY SHERIFF

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