

TELEPHONIC WITNESS STATEMENT

DATE: [Not Provided]

TIME: [Not Provided]

INTERVIEW OF: Representative Debra Fallela

INTERVIEW BY: Detective Corporal Kenneth Buonaiuto
Rhode Island State Police Financial Crimes Unit

LOCATION: Rhode Island State Police Headquarters
311 Danielson Pike
North Scituate, Rhode Island 02857

SUBJECT: 38 Studios Investigation

1. **Q.** This is Corporal Ken Buonaiuto with the Rhode Island State Police.
A. Yes, hi, how are you?
2. **Q.** Good. Do you have a few moments?
A. Yup.
3. **Q.** All right. Is it Debra A. Fallela?
A. It is.
4. **Q.** Great. Okay. Just calling in regards to 38 Studios and the Jobs Creation Guaranty ...
A. Oh yes. Yup. Yup.
5. **Q.** -- Program that was passed in May of 2010.
A. Uh huh.
6. **Q.** Just to start off, how long have you been a representative?
A. This is my eighth year coming up.
7. **Q.** Okay. So we're going back to 2006?
A. Let's see, this is uh -- Yup.

8. Q. All right, so 2006 through 2014. And – and what committees have you been on?

A. What committees? I have been on Health, Education and Welfare, ...

9. Q. Uh huh.

A. I've been on Labor.

10. Q. Okay.

A. I've been on Rules.

11. Q. Yup.

A. And I've been on Veterans.

12. Q. o --

A. And I believe the first year I was there I was on Constituent Services.

13. Q. Okay. All right. Do you remember the Jobs Creation Guaranty Program, that – that bill?

A. I just remember, you know, I, I didn't – I didn't go into committee, I, I don't – I wasn't in any of the committees, hearings or any of that.

14. Q. Okay.

A. I remember we voted for it that night and the big talk was, you know, Curt Shilling and, you know, this was a great opportunity for the State. So that's basically all I really remember.

15. Q. O – Okay, you specifically remember Curt Shilling coming up?

A. Yes. Because, I, you know, I remember it – I remember he's a Red – was a former Red Sox, so I – I remembered that. And I remembered it could be a great thing for the State with all the, you know, with the opportunities that it would bring.

16. Q. Right. Do you – you remember this on the House floor before the vote, or is this something you – afterwards?

A. It was subtle, but you could hear it through the – you could hear it through the halls, you know, Curt Shilling was in meetings with, I believe it was the Governor at the time; probably

Finance too. And just that he was in the building and, you know, it's like a buzz because, you know, with a celebrity-type thing being in the building and, you know, people saying he's in Committee, um. But for the most part, then, you know, that – that was about the basics of what I heard. And then before you know it, we voted – it was like before you know it, it was on the floor.

17. Q. Okay. Do you remember that particular bill being specifically...

A. Yeah, it was late --

18. Q. -- architected for him?

A. I think it was late – I believe it was late night that night, it was later on in the night.

And I think it was the only one that went against it was Watson, if I remember correctly.

19. Q. Yup, that's – that's correct. That's correct.

A. Yup.

20. Q. Okay. So because I'm just trying to get a kind of an idea of when, you know, 38 Studios – Did it come – did it come to the attention of the legislators prior to or after the bill was signed, that type of thing?

A. Oh, prior. I mean, you heard, you know, you heard scuttlebutt that Curt Shilling was in the building, you heard scuttlebutt that this was going to be a great opportunity for the State. So you did hear that there was something going on. I might not have been privy to exactly what it was, but, you know, you knew something was up as far as you know, hopefully something that would be a great thing for the State, a great opportunity for employer-- you know, employees and new job creation; things like that.

21. Q. Okay. So, so was there any discussion on the floor...

A. [Indiscernible]

22. Q. -- specifically about Curt Shilling and 38 Studios?

A. I believe somebody mentioned it on the floor in the debate. I think maybe it was

Watson I think. Because we were all like mesmerized, people were memorized by the whole thing maybe type of thing.

23. Q. Right.

A. But vaguely, that's all I really remember, vaguely.

24. Q. Okay. All right. Did you – Besides knowing who Curt Shilling was, did you know anybody else at 38 Studios?

A. No.

25. Q. Okay.

A. No.

26. Q. Do you have any idea or do you have – do you have any speculation or have you heard anything about anybody that would have – that benefited from this other than 38 Studios?

A. Honestly, no. My – You know, I didn't – I don't know who those – You know, I – No.

Honestly, no.

27. Q. Okay. Michael Corso, do you know ...

A. [Indiscernible]

28. Q. -- the name or do you know the person?

A. I've heard the name, you know, recently. Honestly, I don't remember if – I think his name was brought up last time because he was going to Fox's at the time boyfriend's ...

29. Q. Mm hmm.

A. -- business partner, or he -- he had the hair salon, the building where Marcus was the hairdresser, I, I believe he owned the building that Marcus worked in.

30. Q. Yup.

A. So that was – that was all I only heard about ...

31. Q. Okay.

A. -- you know, Michael Corso, and, you know, I never heard of him before that.

32. Q. Right. Any, anything important that you think you need to let me know that I haven't asked you?

A. No, I don't think so, I think you covered it all.

33. Q. Okay. Do you have my -- Can I give you my telephone number?

A. Sure thing.

34. Q. Okay.

A. I saw 444 come up, I don't know if that's the one.

35. Q. Well the first three, 444.

A. Okay.

36. Q. And then 1205.

A. 1205.

37. Q. That -- And ...

A. Okay. Sorry, ...

38. Q. Yeah.

A. -- can you repeat your name?

39. Q. Yeah, it's Corporal Ken ...

A. Yup.

40. Q. -- Buonaiuto. Bu --

A. B - U

41. Q. O - N

A. O - N

42. Q. A - I

A. A - I

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43. Q. U - T - O.

A. U - T - O. Okay. Very good.

44. Q. Okay. I appreciate it. And if something comes up, we are - it, it doesn't even have - it doesn't need to be anything to do with 38 Studios, it can be anything that you need you know, think you need to ...

A. Okay.

45. Q. -- share with us.

A. Very ...

46. Q. You know.

A. Okay. Very good then.

47. Q. Okay.

A. Thank you.

48. Q. Thank you very much. Bye bye.

A. Bye bye.

[END OF RECORDED PHONE CALL]

STATEMENT TAKEN BY:

WITNESSED BY:
