

TELEPHONIC WITNESS STATEMENT

DATE: [Not Provided]

TIME: [Not Provided]

INTERVIEW OF: Representative Anastasia Williams

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. Hello Ms. Williams, it's Corp...
A. Hello?
2. Q. Hello, Ms. Williams?
A. Yes.
3. Q. Hi. It's – it's Corporal Ken Buonaiuto from the State Police calling you back.
A. What's your name again?
4. Q. It's Corporal Ken Buonaiuto.
A. Okay.
5. Q. Do you want me to spell it for you?
A. Nope, ...
6. Q. Okay.
A. -- I needed to hear it.
7. Q. Yeah. Yeah. It's a tough one. It's a tough one.
A. No, it's not a tough one, it's just that you're bouncing off the wall from being on

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speaker phone.

8. Q. I am. I am on speaker phone, you're right. And I, I'm the only one in the room, so, ...

A. No, [Indiscernible]

9. Q. I – I do have one other investigator that may walk in during our conversation, but you – you might just hear the door open and close, but that's about it.

A. Mm hmm.

10. Q. First, first off, let me tell you we're reaching out to you, and – and as you are probably already aware, all the, all the reps and all the senators that were in s- in s- part of the session or part of the group in 2010, and nobody, including yourself, is a target of any investigation.

A. Mm hmm.

11. Q. We're just doing our due diligence to make sure that we – we reach out to everybody that could possibly have some information that might be helpful to us, or information that we're not even aware of that you may feel that you want to provide us with. So we're opening up the doors of communication is what we're doing.

A. Okay.

12. Q. Okay? So ...

A. Mm hmm.

13. Q. So if I – if I can just start, it is Anastasia Williams, is that correct?

A. Anastasia Williams, yes.

14. Q. Okay. And can you just give me – how, how long have you been – You're still in the House of Representatives right now, is that correct?

A. Yes.

15. Q. Okay. And how long have you been there?

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- A. **Oh, this is twenty-two years.**
16. Q. Okay, wow. That's great. And are you employed otherwise?
- A. **Yes.**
17. Q. And -- and where are you employed?
- A. **I am employed at Department of Planning and Development.**
18. Q. Okay. For the City of Providence?
- A. **The City of Providence, yes.**
19. Q. Okay. And how long have you been employed there?
- A. **About twenty-one years.**
20. Q. And do you have a title there, or?
- A. **Yeah, First ... Coordinator / Compliance Officer.**
21. Q. All right. Very good. Okay, are you presently in a -- you must be assigned to a committee, is that correct?
- A. **Yes.**
22. Q. And, and is that the Finance Committee?
- A. **No.**
23. Q. No. Okay.
- A. **H.E.W.**
24. Q. Okay. Health Education and ...
- A. **Welfare, yes.**
25. Q. Okay. Excellent. And how long have you been assigned to that committee?
- A. **For the last couple of months.**
26. Q. Oh -- Oh since the new ...

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A. Yeah.

27. Q. -- new chair?

A. Mm hmm.

28. Q. Okay. All right. And prior to that?

A. It was the Chair of Labor.

29. Q. Okay. I'm just, I'm writing down notes. That's why I'm hesitating a little bit.

A. Mm hmm. Mm hmm.

30. Q. All right. And how long were you the Chair of the Labor Committee?

A. About four – about four years.

31. Q. Okay. Great. All right. Okay. We'll – So I'll try to make this as quick as possible for you.

And of course if you want to continue, that's fine too. I won't rush you, let's put it that way.

A. Okay.

32. Q. So, I – I won't keep you and I won't rush you.

A. Okay.

33. Q. In 2010, in the spring of 2010, a bill came in front of the house floor, it was the Jobs Creation Guaranty Program – I think it was actually a Senate bill – and it came in front of the – in front of the House, the entire floor. Are you familiar with that bill?

A. Maybe in a sense that job creation bills come across often, and but if you're speaking about a specific one, which I understand it's supposed to be the 38 Studios. Yeah, vaguely. But – Yeah, four years ago we talked about it. Mm hmm.

34. Q. Yeah. Yeah. This would have been the one that, I think initially the bill had funds reserved for it around 50 million and – and it was, it was up 75 million, to a – to a total of 125. Does that refresh your memory a little bit?

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A. **No, But.**

35. Q. [Laughs]

A. [Laughs]

36. Q. That's okay.

A. **Not – not in those types of details, no.**

37. Q. Okay.

A. [Indiscernible]

38. Q. All right. As, as part of the Chairwoman for the Labor Committee, ...

A. **Mm hmm.**

39. Q. -- did that bill come to your committee for any reason prior to ...

A. **N...**

40. Q. -- it going to the floor?

A. **No. It's never come.**

41. Q. No, of course. That wouldn't have any reason to go there, is that right?

A. **No. No.**

42. Q. Okay.

A. **That's a financial thing that would go to Finance.**

43. Q. Okay.

A. [Indiscernible]

44. Q. Do you – do you remember voting on the bill?

A. **Vaguely. I don't – I don't think I may have voted on the bill, I can't -- You know, there was so much talk back then I'm not certain if I voted on it or not at this time.**

45. Q. Okay.

A. You know.

46. Q. All right. That's fine. And are you – are you familiar with 38 Studios?

A. **Just what, you know, has been in the media and, you know, what has been talked about while - at, at the General Assembly.**

47. Q. Okay.

A. Mm hmm.

48. Q. So – did, did you – did you know the existence or the potential of 38 Studios coming to Rhode Island prior to the signing of this bill in 2010?

A. **Absolutely not.**

49. Q. Okay. All right. So nobody officially or unofficially spoke to you about that bill?

A. **No. No.**

50. Q. Or, I'm sorry, spoke to you about 38 Studios? No.

A. **[Indiscernible]**

51. Q. Okay. All right. Do you remember anybody speaking to you regarding the passage of this bill and, and try to influence your vote either way?

A. **No.**

52. Q. Okay. Do you know – do you know Michael Corso?

A. **Not at all.**

53. Q. Okay. Do you know who he is now, or?

A. **Just by name. If he walked past me, I wouldn't be able to pick him out.**

54. Q. Okay. very good. Okay. Is there anything that I haven't asked you that you think is important that you need to tell me?

A. **Um. Not really, not that I could think of right now.**

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55. Q. Okay. All right. Would you like to take down my telephone number in the event something comes to mind you want to reach out to me at?

A. **Sure. Just one second.**

56. Q. Yes.

A. **Um ... Okay.**

57. Q. All right. My - I'll spell my last name. It's BU ..

A. **B-U ...**

58. Q. -- O-N ...

A. **-- O-N ...**

59. Q. -- A-I ...

A. **-- A-I ...**

60. Q. -- U-T-O.

A. **-- U-T-O.**

61. Q. First name is Ken

A. **Mm hmm.**

62. Q. My - I'm a Corporal at the State Police and my telephone number is 444- ...

A. **444 ...**

63. Q. 1205.

A. **1205. Okay.**

64. Q. All right. I thank you very much for your time.

A. **You're welcome.**

65. Q. Okay.

A. **Have a great day.**

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66. Q. You too. Bye bye.

A. Bye bye.

[END OF TELEPHONE INTERVIEW]

STATEMENT TAKEN BY:

WITNESSED BY:
