

Transcription of conversation between Sheriff Wayne Ivey and Kathleen Edwards  
June 14, 2020

:: Static::: Inaudible

Sgt Greg Smith: Yes, she's right there. The one in the pink is the sister. I think the thinner one.

Sgt Greg Smith: Hello

Ms. Edwards: Hi

Sgt Greg Smith: Are you Ms. Edwards?

Ms. Edwards: Yes

Sgt Greg Smith: (inaudible) Hey, Sgt Smith, we talked on the phone, how are you?

Ms. Edwards: (inaudible) Good.

Sgt Greg Smith: (inaudible, Static)

Sgt. Smith: Hey

(Unable to translate background talking. Unclear.)

Ms. Edwards: Hi

Sheriff Ivey: How you doing?

Ms. Edwards: Good (Unable to translate background talking. Unclear.) My battle buddy

Sheriff Ivey: Can I tell you why I couldn't? Cause your attorney told us not to contact you (inaudible) they told us not to contact you, we (inaudible) in fact I would love for you and I to sit down, and, and, let's find peace here.

Ms. Edwards: I think its, my main thing is, I feel like, it should, I feel like, I would like something where it's not just me. other, it's me and other combat veterans, that maybe you can like get some type of, like suggestions on how to handle PTSD. Like..

Sheriff Ivey: We, listen, we are always wanting, I promise you, alright, we do. We always wanna, and,

Ms. Edwards: and I kinda feel

Sheriff Ivey: if you have a good ability to, to give us that input you know, and um, and, and Look, I, I don't know how you feel about the veterans, um, hospital or whatever, but I go over there

Ms. Edwards: I go there, I go there, I mean I go to the Vets center, I go, We, Me and my husband went

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Sheriff Ivey: No, I'm just saying, I have a good relationship (inaudible). But I would have been here the next day. But I could not come here after your attorney's told us (inaudible) we even wanted to bring you a victim's advocate, and they wouldn't let us do that. So, now, I, I know there's, you know, been a lot of turmoil and everything else, as, as a result of all this. But, look, we, we were, we got called here tonight because, we, we (inaudible)

Ms. Edwards: (Inaudible) I just feel like, no one saved a Combat medic but you want to save me? Like.. (Inaudible, giggling)

Sheriff Ivey: No, no,

Ms. Edwards: Like

Sheriff Ivey: None, none of us wanted anything to happen to him either

Ms. Edwards: (giggling) you know

Sheriff Ivey: (inaudible)

Ms. Edwards: I mean, the only thing I want is to see the tape. I wanna see, like how can, I have PTSD. I'm concerned about my health, like how can a person die from excited delirium? I wanna see it.

Sheriff Ivey: So

Ms. Edwards: I wanna see it

Sheriff Ivey: So why don't we do this, alright? Um, First of all you promise me that you're, you're not going to do anything to harm yourself. Promise me that right now, and I believe you if you tell me that.

Ms. Edwards: I can promise you that, Yes, I'm not going to harm myself or others, I mean

Sheriff Ivey: And then, and then you bring one person that you are comfortable with sitting and talking with us (inaudible) come with you

Ms. Edwards: one person

Sheriff Ivey: whoever you are comfortable with, alright. But I, I want this to be about you. Ok? And what, what brings closure to this for you? And, and, I don't think it's just seeing the video. I, I think you have a deeper purpose than that.

Ms. Edwards: I want Veterans to be safe, I'm a veteran

Sheriff Ivey: That's what I said, I think you have a deeper person than that

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Ms. Edwards: I mean, I'm a combat veteran. Like I served my country. I almost died, like my friends have committed suicide already, like, I have lost all my battle buddies. You know, I do not want this to happen to none of my battle buddies.

Sheriff Ivey: And I don't either. I love our veterans, I know you do too. I, I recruit more veterans than anybody else. They, they've already demonstrated their ability to serve. So, lets, lets you and I sit down, OK. Alright, and, you, you promised me and I believe you do not do anything to hurt yourself. You right now, you, you have a chance, to be that purpose that you want in your heart. OK

Ms. Edwards: Thank you. Thank you for finally meeting me.

Sheriff Ivey: I would have been here a long time ago, but your attorney's told me I couldn't.

Ms. Edwards: OK

Sheriff Ivey: So

Ms. Edwards: But I'm still upset, I still want answers, I still, you know, I can't,

Sheriff Ivey: I, I, Listen, Listen , I, I, I, I'll tell you what I wanna do, ok, I'll tell you exactly what I want to do tomorrow, OK. I want to show you everything. I want to show you everything from time line through all the way. OK.

Ms. Edwards: The only issue with that is, my lawyer would have to be present. And I have to get a hold of my lawyer.

Sheriff Ivey: Did, Did the lawyer's tell you (inaudible) (static)

Ms. Edwards: (Inaudible) The lawyer in the beginning doesn't have to come, a different lawyer.

Sheriff Ivey: I don't think we've ever talked to that lawyer.

Ms. Edwards: It's Domingo Rodriguez.

Sheriff Ivey: So, Um, the lawyers from the very beginning, I wanna say were out of Ft. Lauderdale or something like that, correct?

Ms. Edwards: Yes.

Sheriff Ivey: They're the ones that told us not to have anything to do with you, and we've, we've never had anything else to do with you, out of their direction to us. And so, you know, um, you, you tell me what time is good for you tomorrow.

Ms. Edwards: I have to get back with my lawyer.

Sheriff Ivey: Oh sure! Absolutely. Yeah, I got no problem with that.

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Ms. Edwards: I don't want to tell you a time

Sheriff Ivey: Sure ok

Ms. Edwards: and then my lawyers like I want to be there, or like something, you know what I mean?

Sheriff Ivey: And, and your lawyer may very well want to be there, in fact, I would imagine they will, and that's fine. Alright.

Ms. Edwards: Alright.

Sheriff Ivey: But I, I want you to, just, lets, lets, find closure for you and then see what you want to do after that. OK?

Ms. Edwards: Ok

Sheriff Ivey: Alright, I'm going to give you my card, (static) it's got my cellphone on the bottom of it, you call me tomorrow morning, alright. Do we, do we have her number, so I?

Sgt. Greg Smith: We do! Yes sir.

Sheriff Ivey: You call me tomorrow morning, alright.

Ms. Edwards: Okay.

Sheriff Ivey: and, and I'm gonna say this to you, there's, there's tons of stories out there, tons of everything else, alright. Right now, all I care about is that when I got that call tonight, I live in the far north end of the county, and I came down here, to stand right here, for you. Alright, so all I care about right now is (loud noise in background, inaudible) when we got those messages, or that call, um, I think it was from somebody in Texas

Sgt. Greg Smith: Yeah, I, I was going to show her the screen shot if she was had questions about that.

Sheriff Ivey: Yeah, so um, (inaudible, Static) And I know you're hurting, I understand it, and I respect it, but let's, lets, let's just take it one day at a time, alright? Ok

Ms. Edwards: (inaudible)

Sheriff Ivey: And the last thing I have, could you have lived any further South in this county.

Various giggles from parties.

Ms. Edwards: This is what I'm talking about, there is nothing for us as veterans here, I mean I know you don't deal with the mental health part of the community, but there is

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nowhere for us to go when we do have, like Circles of Care always got beds full, like, there something that has to be here for us. Like (static)

Sheriff Ivey: Well, I promise you, you will never find, in fact, yesterday, I was at the funeral of George Taylor, who is a gentlemen that probably did more for um, veterans in this community than anybody else and worked diligently to lower the number of homeless vets (inaudible) you can ask anybody in there. Any time he ever called me, I came running trying to help you guys. Alright. Ok? So lets you and I talk tomorrow. Talk to your attorney, please, um, ah, Feel free to invite him, Um is he a local attorney?

Ms. Edwards: No

Sheriff Ivey: Okay, Um, So I don't know what his schedule will be like or anything but you and I (inaudible)

Ms. Edwards: Does it have to be tomorrow?

Sheriff Ivey: No ma'am.

Ms. Edwards: ok, I would rather talk to him before I do anything.

Sheriff Ivey: Oh, I want you too! I absolutely want you too. But, just uh, just, let's, let's take one day at a time. OK? Fair enough?

Ms. Edwards: Alright, I appreciate you,

Sheriff Ivey: You have a good night

Ms. Edwards: thank you

Sheriff Ivey: Alright, just drive safe, Thank you. You take care. Thank you guys.

Sgt Greg Smith: Thank you.

Ms. Edwards: Alright bye

Static.