

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF FULTON COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA

STATE OF GEORGIA, )  
 )  
 vs. )  
 )  
 MARQUAVIUS HUEY, )  
 DEAMONTE KENDRICK, )  
 QUAMARVIOUS NICHOLS, )  
 RODALIUS RYAN, )  
 SHANNON STILLWELL, )  
 JEFFERY WILLIAMS, )  
 )  
 Defendants. )  
 )  
 \_\_\_\_\_ )

CASE NO.: 22SC183572

Transcript of the Ex Parte Hearing  
in the Chambers of the Honorable Ural D. Glanville  
on June 10, 2024

Kristina Weaver, RPR, CCR-B-1785

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A-P-P-E-A-R-A-N-C-E O-F C-O-U-N-S-E-L

On Behalf of the State:

ADRIANE LOVE  
SIMONE HYLTON  
Assistant District Attorneys

On Behalf of Kenneth Copeland:

KAYLA BUMPUS  
Attorney at Law

1           (The Ex Parte Hearing began at 9:10 a.m. Present in  
2 chambers were Judge Glanville, Assistant District Attorney  
3 Adriane Love and Attorney Kayla Bumpus, Court Reporter  
4 Kristina Weaver, and Investigators Antonio Long and Rasheed  
5 Hamilton.)

6           THE COURT REPORTER: Okay. I'm ready whenever you  
7 are.

8           MS. LOVE: Thank you. The concern that we wanted to  
9 bring to the Court's attention as the State was two-fold.

10           One, we wanted to have the opportunity to impress  
11 upon Mr. Copeland with representation present that he  
12 faces -- and we wanted to give him an opportunity to ask  
13 whatever questions he wanted to ask before he was sort  
14 of -- we had to pull him in the courtroom when the jury  
15 came out.

16           The second concern that I have is and I wanted to  
17 bring to the Court's attention in line with the concern  
18 that I expressed on the record on Friday, I don't know what  
19 advice counsel may have offered or may be offering. That  
20 is their right and their business.

21           As it relates to testifying, however, I do not  
22 believe that criminal exposure is a concern that is --  
23 which interest is being spoken about and protected.

24           Mr. Melnick relayed to Ms. Hylton on Friday that he  
25 had never heard of the statute 24-5-507. And on Friday he

1 sent an email. I don't know if he intentionally copied  
2 Mr. Steel and Mr. Schardt. I don't know if he  
3 unintentionally put my name on it. But he sent an email to  
4 Mr. Steel and Mr. Schardt with me and Simone copied where  
5 he said: This is the communication that I received from  
6 Ms. Love regarding Mr. Copeland.

7 My response was: Whose interests are you protecting,  
8 yours or Mr. Steel's -- whose clients -- which client are  
9 you protecting? Whose client, yours or Mr. Steel's and  
10 Mr. Schardt's? He wrote back and said, "You are going to  
11 get him killed. You have made him -- you are making him a  
12 target. Fuck you," is what he wrote in the email.

13 So given that his concern is that by testifying, at  
14 least the one that he conveyed to me in writing, it's  
15 not -- his concern has nothing to do with exposure from the  
16 State. And if his concern --

17 THE COURT: His being whose concern?

18 MS. LOVE: Mr. Melnick. If the interest that he is  
19 protecting is Mr. Copeland's freedom, he did not convey it  
20 by asking us what exposure does he face in testifying. In  
21 fact, if he's concerned that testifying will get  
22 Mr. Copeland killed and he is not communicating with us,  
23 he's communicating with counsel for defendants, it would  
24 seem that he knows a thing or something that we don't know.

25 Additionally, and I will let Ms. Bumpus tell you, he

1 has said if Mr. Copeland testifies, he's no longer  
2 representing Mr. Copeland, which is strange because if your  
3 interest is your client, then it would seem you would want  
4 to be there for him while he is testifying.

5 THE COURT: Well, he is on vacation this week.

6 MS. LOVE: I understand. That is why he has  
7 Ms. Bumpus here, and he has said what he has said.

8 And as I was reading the statute, the thing that  
9 is -- and I was reading the statute about this particular  
10 situation, and I was reading our rules, our ethics rules,  
11 rules of conduct for attorneys. And it is clear that if an  
12 attorney -- there were two things that were happening.

13 One, Mr. Melnick had told me that he wasn't  
14 Mr. Copeland's lawyer. Mr. Copeland had told Ms. Hylton  
15 that Mr. Melnick wasn't representing him. And then rather  
16 than Mr. Copeland reaching out to Mr. Melnick, Mr. Melnick  
17 apparently was in communication with Mr. Steel and  
18 Mr. Schardt, and Mr. Melnick reaches out to Mr. Copeland  
19 and injects himself in these proceedings.

20 What we were discussing was in no way a matter that  
21 Mr. Melnick was representing Mr. Copeland on, and that is  
22 where we are not allowed to speak with a person when they  
23 are represented by counsel. Mr. Melnick was not, could not  
24 have been representing Mr. Copeland on anything we were  
25 talking about because we were talking about this case and

1 this trial.

2 All that aside, we would like an opportunity for the  
3 Court to address Mr. Copeland with Mr. Copeland's stand-in  
4 counsel present -- Ms. Bumpus is looking at me like --

5 MS. BUMPUS: I'm listening.

6 MS. LOVE: With his stand-in counsel present and to  
7 allow Ms. Bumpus an opportunity to explain to Mr. Copeland  
8 everything that I have just said.

9 Her concern outside was what is the longest he can  
10 stay in jail. What I relayed to her is the statute says  
11 until he purges --

12 THE COURT: By testifying.

13 MS. LOVE: -- his contempt by testifying.

14 THE COURT: Yeah. 507 is a little bit different.  
15 So, I mean --

16 MS. BUMPUS: So until the end of this?

17 THE COURT: He can be here until the end of the  
18 trial.

19 MS. BUMPUS: That is what I said. To the end of  
20 trial is the longest?

21 MS. LOVE: No, it's not the longest. Even after a  
22 grand jury -- if a person has been subpoenaed to testify  
23 before the grand jury, and even after the grand jury has --  
24 what is it, convened? Has left? Has left, that person can  
25 stay in until that person purges himself of contempt by

1           testifying. The statute literally says that.

2           MS. BUMPUS: Well, I'm going to look it up because it  
3 was my understanding that it was until the end of trial.

4           MS. LOVE: Nope. Uh-uh. Here it is. Literally the  
5 words of the statute. And so --

6           THE COURT: He could be in there a while. Let's put  
7 it that way. Either way --

8           MS. BUMPUS: I just want to be able to give him --

9           THE COURT: I know. I know. It's kind of the  
10 statute says, you know, that you purge, but I can't keep  
11 him in there indefinitely. I've got to kind of --

12          MS. BUMPUS: Right. That is all I want to know.

13          THE COURT: You know, the whole thing is that he  
14 can -- he has the keys to his own freedom, and that freedom  
15 is if he just gives his testimony, then he's purged it.

16          MS. BUMPUS: Right.

17          MS. LOVE: And, you know, whatever that testimony is.  
18 We know what we believe it to be, but, you know, we don't  
19 know what it is. We can't talk about it. We don't, you  
20 know -- I mean, we don't know what he's going to say. We  
21 have an idea. We know what he's told us.

22          MS. BUMPUS: Yeah.

23          MS. LOVE: And our concern is that if his -- our  
24 concern -- I know the Court said essentially, you intimated  
25 that you -- that Mr. Melnick probably told him essentially

1 you should testify, they are not going to -- they can't do  
2 anything with your testimony.

3 But what we overheard being said was, "They are going  
4 to hammer you," as if we were going to expose Kenneth  
5 Copeland to --

6 MS. BUMPUS: You heard that?

7 MS. LOVE: Yes. Yeah. Mr. Melnick told Mr. Copeland  
8 we're going to hammer him.

9 THE COURT: Now, to be fair, and I think Ms. Bumpus  
10 as an advocate or anybody has got to tell him he's going to  
11 face some pretty significant cross-examination.

12 MS. BUMPUS: Yeah. I think that's what he meant.

13 THE COURT: I mean, he's going to face -- he's got  
14 about ten --

15 MS. LOVE: So he meant the defense is going to hammer  
16 him?

17 MS. BUMPUS: No. Just in general he's going to be --  
18 it's not going to be a: Hey, da, da, da, da.

19 MS. LOVE: He knew that. He had already been  
20 expressing that.

21 THE COURT: But, I mean, I think that if he's  
22 concerned about that, well, you know, but -- it's all in  
23 the message and the packaging in terms of I think  
24 Mr. Copeland is, you know, a savvy person. But, you know,  
25 he's certainly going to be subject to a thorough and

1 sifting cross-examination.

2 MS. LOVE: And the other thing is that --

3 MS. BUMPUS: Can I just say something in Attorney  
4 Melnick's defense in response, just for the record?

5 MS. LOVE: Yes.

6 MS. BUMPUS: The reason that he doesn't want to move  
7 forward with representation, what I have been told, if he  
8 decides to testify is that he doesn't feel like he can --  
9 he doesn't know what was said outside of his presence, so  
10 he doesn't feel like he can adequately represent him or  
11 counsel him because he doesn't know what was told to the  
12 State when he wasn't there.

13 MS. LOVE: But the thing is that the only thing that  
14 he should be concerned about is the criminal exposure or  
15 the exposure that Kenneth Copeland has criminally, and  
16 there is nothing. There is literally nothing. The statute  
17 is quite clear that we can do to him about -- the only  
18 thing that would put him in harm's way is a lie and a  
19 refusal to testify after being ordered to do so by the  
20 Court.

21 And by a lie, we don't mean, like, oh, I think you  
22 lying. You know, it would have to be, you know, something  
23 obvious, you know, because we can always impeach. But if  
24 he literally perjures himself, that's something different.  
25 We can't help that. We can't control that. We would only

1 say: Tell the truth. I don't care how bad it is, just  
2 tell the truth.

3 So, you know, like he says: I didn't go down to the  
4 police station.

5 THE COURT: And I think part of his challenge,  
6 Ms. Bumpus, may be that you need to assure him, "Look, I'm  
7 going to be here. And if you think that they are asking  
8 you a question," they being the State or the defense, "is  
9 asking you a question that's going to bring out other  
10 crimes," that you're going to -- he's going to be able to  
11 look to you and say, "Can I have a chance to talk with  
12 you?"

13 MS. LOVE: That's exactly right.

14 MS. BUMPUS: Uh-uh.

15 MS. LOVE: See, but that's just it.

16 MS. BUMPUS: No, he's not.

17 MS. LOVE: Hold on. Hold on. Hold on.

18 That's just it, Judge. The problem is that there's  
19 been an assertion that people are representing --

20 And I'm not talking about you.

21 MS. BUMPUS: Yeah.

22 MS. LOVE: There's been an assertion that people are  
23 representing his -- that their biggest concern is his best  
24 interest, and then they are just not here? And Ms. Bumpus  
25 is saying she's not in a position to do that?

1 MS. BUMPUS: No, I'm not saying I'm not in a  
2 position. I'm saying that the agreement between  
3 Mr. Copeland and Melnick, who I'm standing in for, is that  
4 if he chooses to testify, I'm to get him to sign this paper  
5 that says that then discharges Melnick as his rep -- that's  
6 their agreement. I can't do nothing about that.

7 MS. LOVE: That sounds weird. That does not sound  
8 like something in Mr. Copeland's best interest. That  
9 sounds like protecting somebody else's best interest. "If  
10 you talk, I can't -- I ain't going to -- I'm not going to  
11 represent you," I don't even know what to do with that.

12 MS. BUMPUS: Well, he said he does not know what was  
13 said.

14 MS. LOVE: It doesn't matter what was said.

15 MS. BUMPUS: Right, right.

16 MS. LOVE: It doesn't matter. And he didn't ask us.  
17 He didn't even inquire, "What have you-all talked about?"  
18 He has been talking to Brian Steel and Max Schardt. That's  
19 it. He is not talking to us.

20 And, in fact, when Mr. Copeland asked to speak with  
21 us, Mr. Melnick barges in and gets between Ms. Hylton and  
22 Mr. Copeland and literally keeps us from talking to him  
23 before he gets called to the stand. And that's troubling.

24 MS. BUMPUS: Well, I think what happened was -- and I  
25 say this because I previously represented Mr. Copeland

1           previously on his other stuff. So I know when he -- this  
2           is just what I think happened.

3           I think how Attorney Melnick came involved was his  
4           representation of other -- because he took my place.  
5           Copeland fired me and hired Melnick, and then this came  
6           about. And I think so at the beginning Melnick was  
7           representing him, and then --

8           MS. LOVE: In his criminal matter that he had, but  
9           that's resolved.

10          MS. BUMPUS: But when this case started, Melnick  
11          called me and told me that he was representing him as a  
12          witness at the beginning. I can assert that.

13          MS. LOVE: Melnick has never in life --

14          MS. BUMPUS: This is two years ago.

15          MS. LOVE: Melnick didn't -- as a matter of fact,  
16          less than two years ago when Copeland was sitting in jail,  
17          sitting in jail for something else he had done, Melnick  
18          said, "I don't represent him." He told me, "I don't  
19          represent him." And people were in the room. He was on  
20          speaker. He told me he didn't represent him.

21          Now he ultimately did come about and represent him,  
22          but when we were trying to get, I guess --

23          MS. BUMPUS: Something, yeah.

24          MS. LOVE: -- Copeland was, like, "He's not my  
25          lawyer. I don't have a lawyer. He's not my lawyer." And

1           then --

2           MS. BUMPUS:   Are you talking about recently?

3           MS. LOVE:    So recently Copeland said that Melnick was  
4           not his lawyer.

5           MS. BUMPUS:   Right.

6           MS. LOVE:    When Copeland was in jail, Melnick told me  
7           he wasn't his lawyer.   But our understanding was that  
8           Melnick was his lawyer for those criminal charges.   And so  
9           the person that came in and argued or at least stood in for  
10          him on his bond and then on his subsequent plea was  
11          Melnick.

12          But I don't know whose interest he would be  
13          representing when he's not talking to us about what we've  
14          spoken to Copeland about.   He could ask us and we would  
15          tell him.   You know, so I don't know why he would withdraw  
16          his representation of him.   If his interest is Kenneth  
17          Copeland, then why would you pull out --

18          THE COURT:   That doesn't make sense.

19          MS. LOVE:    -- at the point where he would face the  
20          most peril if that is his concern?   If his concern is, "I  
21          don't know what they talked about so I don't know what" --

22          THE COURT:   And I thought that Ms. Hylton had a list  
23          of questions for Mr. Copeland anyway.

24          MS. LOVE:    She did.

25          THE COURT:   Well, how come you-all can't --

1 MS. LOVE: He didn't ask to see those. He didn't --  
2 and not only that --

3 THE COURT: Well, can't you-all share that with  
4 Ms. Bumpus?

5 MS. LOVE: Well, Ms. Hylton has already shared it  
6 with Mr. Copeland, and we certainly will share it generally  
7 speaking.

8 MS. BUMPUS: Can I read this email that Melnick sent  
9 me? I don't know if this will help you understand what  
10 he's saying.

11 It says: Hey, Kayla. I wasn't able to see Kenneth  
12 today.

13 He went on Saturday and tried to talk to him before  
14 his flight.

15 But I have talked to his family. So at first Kenneth  
16 was going to testify but has now decided to take the Fifth.  
17 He may change his mind on Monday. If he does, then he's  
18 agreed to discharge me as his attorney. This isn't out of  
19 bad feelings, but I was not present when he met with the  
20 DA's office so I can't really help him with his testimony.

21 And then he gave me the discharge and told me that if  
22 he decides to testify, then he's to sign this.

23 MS. LOVE: And that's just it. It's like you never  
24 know what somebody is going to ask. And if he's concerned  
25 about putting him in legal jeopardy, then he -- it would

1 seem like he would remain and allow Mr. Copeland access to  
2 counsel when Mr. Copeland is concerned that he's about to  
3 walk into an area that puts him in legal jeopardy.

4 MS. BUMPUS: You can't switch how he gets called?

5 MS. LOVE: See, that's not in Mr. Copeland's best  
6 interest. That's in the defendant's best interest.

7 When you say switch in how he gets called, what does  
8 that have to do with anything?

9 MS. BUMPUS: I don't know. Maybe he's saying he  
10 can't do it because he can't get his refundable ticket.

11 MS. LOVE: That is not what he said in that email to  
12 you, and that is not what he relayed to the Court. And his  
13 concerns have nothing to do with --

14 THE COURT: He was very much --

15 MS. BUMPUS: I tried to go back and watch as much as  
16 I could.

17 THE COURT: -- telling me what he was -- that he was  
18 going on vacation. And I said, "Well, you inserted  
19 yourself in this." I said, "Really you need to come on  
20 Monday."

21 MS. LOVE: So he can't force Mr. Copeland to  
22 discharge him just because Mr. Copeland decides to testify.

23 THE COURT: I think you are in until it's done. I  
24 mean, you know --

25 MS. BUMPUS: Who me?

1 THE COURT: Yeah. I mean, that's just -- if he  
2 testifies, you've got to kind of --

3 MS. LOVE: And frankly, your Honor, I know that if a  
4 person faces criminal contempt, they are entitled to  
5 representation if they want it. This being a civil  
6 contempt matter --

7 THE COURT: Not necessarily. Anybody who's facing  
8 contempt can get counsel. I mean, you know, not anybody,  
9 but --

10 MS. BUMPUS: I can't stay. How long is this going to  
11 take?

12 MS. LOVE: It might take some days.

13 MS. BUMPUS: Uh-uh.

14 MS. LOVE: And see that's just it. And I don't  
15 mean -- I think Ms. Bumpus is put in a precarious position.  
16 She's not the one that stood up and injected herself into  
17 this. They reached out to her, and she did him a favor.

18 But ultimately it seems as if Mr. Melnick is stalling  
19 and attempting to delay and hamper and hinder our  
20 proceedings, and that is a problem because that has nothing  
21 to do with the best interest of Kenneth Copeland, and that  
22 has nothing to do with Kenneth Copeland's exposure if he  
23 testifies.

24 Just to answer the question about what he is exposed  
25 to, the statute is very, very clear. It literally says

1 that no testimony or any evidence required under the  
2 Court's order or any information directly or indirectly  
3 derived from such testimony or evidence shall be used  
4 against the person in any proceeding or prosecution for a  
5 crime or offense concerning which he testified or produces  
6 evidence under the Court order.

7 That is saying even if he got on the stand and  
8 said --

9 THE COURT: He started talking about an unrelated  
10 crime, which is what the biggest thing I think he's  
11 probably thinking about is that, yeah, there's a lot of  
12 stuff they could ask me about --

13 MS. LOVE: Right.

14 THE COURT: -- that is not known to a lot of people  
15 and that -- you know, he could also invoke his Fifth  
16 Amendment, with the advice of counsel, if it was some other  
17 particular crime. But --

18 MS. LOVE: But even that, we wouldn't -- even --

19 THE COURT: Even that, he'll still have to testify.

20 MS. LOVE: Literally -- right. The saw lays --

21 THE COURT: Yeah. I mean, anything he testifies  
22 to --

23 MS. LOVE: -- we do this.

24 MS. BUMPUS: Okay. And then about the delay or  
25 stall, isn't it true or is it not true that he had a leave

1 filed since December?

2 MS. LOVE: We have nothing to do with any of that.  
3 He injected himself into this.

4 THE COURT: Yeah. See the problem is --

5 MS. LOVE: He stepped in.

6 THE COURT: -- that when you get involved, I don't  
7 know you have a leave --

8 MS. LOVE: Right. You --

9 THE COURT: -- and unless you filed that leave into  
10 this case, you don't have a leave for my case.

11 MS. LOVE: Right.

12 MS. BUMPUS: Okay, okay.

13 MS. LOVE: And he did not.

14 THE COURT: So he didn't have one.

15 MS. LOVE: Mr. Copeland's been a witness and a name  
16 on this witness list since --

17 THE COURT: So since he said, "Well, I represent  
18 him," I'm like, "Okay. Well, you don't have a leave that's  
19 filed in our case."

20 MS. BUMPUS: Okay, okay.

21 MS. LOVE: So he did this to himself and he did it to  
22 you. But we have to -- you know, that is just where it is,  
23 and I don't know that -- that's just where we are.

24 MS. BUMPUS: So, Judge, you are going to make me stay  
25 if he chooses to testify?

1           THE COURT: I am because he -- you're his lawyer.  
2 You're his lawyer. You're a stand-in lawyer at this point.

3           MS. BUMPUS: Your Honor, I don't have a problem with  
4 that. I just -- I'm not ready.

5           MS. LOVE: If --

6           THE COURT: There's nothing for you to be ready  
7 about. I mean, here's the thing. I think the only thing  
8 you've got to kind of ask him about is, look, here is the  
9 questions the State is going to ask you. All right. Is  
10 there anything else that could hurt you that they might ask  
11 you about? And as long as you have knowledge of that, then  
12 I think that you are fine because the State's only going to  
13 get into this.

14           Now, the reason you want to know what's going to hurt  
15 you is the defendants know more about Kenneth Copeland than  
16 anybody else, so they are probably going to kind of --

17           MS. BUMPUS: What about if I say I can't do it? Then  
18 Melnick needs to come back, right? Am I going to be in  
19 trouble? Because I was only for Monday. That's what I was  
20 told. I was given specific . . .

21           MS. LOVE: If Copeland said -- I don't know what  
22 Mr. Copeland wants. It's his choice.

23           MS. BUMPUS: Can't he say he doesn't want Melnick?

24           MS. LOVE: He can say whatever he wants. It's his  
25 choice.

1 MS. BUMPUS: But the judge is saying --

2 MS. LOVE: I don't think he can be forced to have  
3 representation if he doesn't want, need, or say he wants  
4 it, because we have offered -- we have done everything to  
5 clear him of judicial exposure. He's not -- there is  
6 nothing he can say -- he could lie. That puts him in, you  
7 know --

8 THE COURT: Peril.

9 MS. LOVE: -- peril. But, you know, he can't talk  
10 about a crime that we could then prosecute him for.

11 THE COURT: That is involving this or some other  
12 place.

13 MS. LOVE: Right.

14 MS. BUMPUS: I understand that but --

15 MS. LOVE: And we can't use his testimony to go find  
16 evidence to prosecute him for the stuff he talks about.  
17 Basically he is literally shielded.

18 MS. BUMPUS: I would have to agree with you that I  
19 don't think that that's the concern. Isn't that what you  
20 said?

21 MS. LOVE: Well, the Court said that --

22 MS. BUMPUS: No. I'm saying with Mr. Copeland not  
23 testifying. You said you don't think that his concern is  
24 criminal exposure, or you do think that is what he's  
25 worried about?

1 THE COURT: Do you think that he's fearful of  
2 testifying for other reasons, like for his personal safety?

3 MS. BUMPUS: Right.

4 MS. LOVE: That is what Mr. Melnick said to me in an  
5 email I can pull up. He said, --

6 MS. BUMPUS: But you don't believe that --

7 MS. LOVE: -- "You are going to get him killed."  
8 That's what he said. We ain't gonna kill him.

9 MS. BUMPUS: See, I don't know anything about that  
10 email.

11 MS. LOVE: We ain't gonna kill him. I can show you  
12 the email, but we're not going to kill Kenneth Copeland.  
13 So who is he talking about? So what are you trying to do?

14 THE COURT: That is a collateral second and  
15 third-order effect. You know, let's pray it doesn't happen  
16 but --

17 MS. LOVE: I mean, obviously he --

18 THE COURT: -- first he has to give testimony though.  
19 I mean, that's what he has to do. He's got to give the  
20 testimony whatever it is: Good, bad, or indifferent.  
21 Good, bad, or indifferent, I should say.

22 MS. LOVE: So we would like with the Court's  
23 permission -- they haven't brought him over, and he was  
24 supposed to be the first one up, so I guess they went to  
25 get him. They might be over here with him now.

1 THE COURT: Is he here now?

2 MS. LOVE: I don't know.

3 (Judge Glanville exited chambers at 9:33 a.m.)

4 MS. LOVE: We would like to just go into another  
5 courtroom and talk to him, give you a chance to talk to  
6 him, and then give you an opportunity to explain to him --

7 THE COURT REPORTER: We're off the record.

8 (Brief recess.)

9 (Judge Glanville and Mr. Chamberlain entered chambers  
10 at 9:34 a.m.)

11 MS. LOVE: Ms. Hylton has been communicating with  
12 him. I'd like to grab her from downstairs and have her  
13 come up.

14 THE COURT: Where is Mr. Copeland?

15 MR. CHAMBERLAIN: They took him upstairs to the tank  
16 in 9.

17 THE COURT: Okay. Can we bring him out to -- can  
18 we --

19 MR. CHAMBERLAIN: Your chambers is being used -- I  
20 mean, your courtroom is being used.

21 THE COURT: Let's bring him in here.

22 MR. CHAMBERLAIN: All right. So let me see if I can  
23 get that done.

24 THE COURT: Let's bring him in here. Okay. Thank  
25 you. We'll just bring him in here.

1           (The proceedings stood in recess from 9:34 a.m. to  
2 10:03 a.m.)

3           (Mr. Copeland entered chambers at 10:03 a.m. Also  
4 present were Judge Glanville, Assistant District Attorney  
5 Simone Hylton and Attorney Kayla Bumpus, Court Reporter  
6 Kristina Weaver, Investigators Antonio Long and Rasheed  
7 Hamilton, and Deputy Houston, Deputy McPherson,  
8 Sergeant Brown, and Sergeant Hall with the Fulton County  
9 Sheriff's Department.)

10           THE COURT: Okay.

11           MR. COPELAND: Can you let him know I got a hearing  
12 problem?

13           MS. BUMPUS: Okay. He said can -- he is hard of  
14 hearing.

15           THE COURT: That makes two of us. I've got a hearing  
16 aid that's coming on the 27th of January -- I mean, of  
17 June. So I'll try and talk loud. Is it okay if I --

18           MR. COPELAND: Yeah. I can read lips.

19           THE COURT: Okay. Good, good. Mr. Copeland, good  
20 morning.

21           MR. COPELAND: Good morning.

22           THE COURT: All right. I just wanted to bring you  
23 over and let you talk with Ms. Bumpus and see if there is  
24 anything that you need to ask of your counsel or Ms. Hylton  
25 or the State or the Court before we bring you out this

1 morning because it is -- we would like to hear your  
2 testimony, and that is kind of where we are at this point  
3 in time.

4 So is there anything you want to ask?

5 MR. COPELAND: Well, I want to speak to you  
6 personally that I have never been truthful a day in my life  
7 until I just made this statement right now. I don't  
8 comprehend none of this stuff that's going on.

9 THE COURT: Okay. Well, the only thing you can give  
10 is truthful testimony. I mean, whatever you know is  
11 whatever you know. I mean, that's it.

12 MS. HYLTON: And what we'll say -- and Mr. Copeland  
13 and I, we have talked about this. I'm not sure what your  
14 concerns are, what concerns that you expressed to  
15 Mr. Melnick last week. But if you are -- if any of your  
16 concerns deal with being locked up for anything, you can't.  
17 Like there's nothing that can happen. The feds --

18 MS. BUMPUS: Well, that's not --

19 MS. HYLTON: It is true.

20 MS. BUMPUS: No. I said that's not his concern.

21 MS. HYLTON: If his concern is safety, we need to  
22 know that. Like that's not expressed, so we don't know  
23 what the concern is so that we can try to resolve the  
24 concern.

25 This is what I'm saying. Mr. Copeland and I have had

1 conversations before. I understand some of his concerns is  
2 potential criminal liability, hence why we gave you  
3 immunity. The federal statute of limitations, done. The  
4 state statute of limitations, done.

5 So there is nothing -- like I researched it this  
6 weekend again. Both those statute of limitations for what  
7 you and I talked about, which is in 2015 or before, done.  
8 You cannot be prosecuted for anything you testify federally  
9 or statewide. Immune, period.

10 So if that is the concern, there is none because you  
11 cannot be prosecuted. The federal statute of limitations  
12 is five years. So anything in 2015, five years would have  
13 been in 2020. Anything statewide is four years. It would  
14 have been 2019. Finished.

15 Next concern: What may happen in the street? You  
16 know what we have talked about, what we can do as far as  
17 living and all of that. We have had those conversations.

18 So I'm trying to express to you we do not want you  
19 locked up. I don't know how many times I've got to tell  
20 that to you, what I've got to say to you. We do not want  
21 you sitting in DeKalb or whenever they got you because of  
22 this.

23 I know you wanted to talk to me on Friday before you  
24 walked into court. We weren't able to talk. If you still  
25 want to talk with or without Ms. Bumpus, I'm here, but we

1 do not want you in custody.

2 You will not -- this order, I don't know if you kept  
3 your copy of the order, but this order says you are immune  
4 from prosecution, any of it. Literally -- Judge, you might  
5 want to close your ears -- if you confess to a murder on  
6 the stand, if we don't have any other independent evidence  
7 outside of what you say on the stand, you are immune from  
8 prosecution from what you say in court.

9 So, again, I don't know what was communicated to you  
10 on Friday. I have no idea. But what the State has assured  
11 you, which I have assured you in our private conversations  
12 with Mr. Long, as I'm saying in front of Ms. Bumpus, as I  
13 told you, that is what this order says.

14 THE COURT: And that is direct or cross-examination.

15 MS. HYLTON: And that is direct or cross-examination.

16 THE COURT: So if you are worried about what the  
17 defendants may ask you because they may know your business,  
18 but if they ask you about things that you might think you  
19 might have some liability with, you can't be prosecuted for  
20 any of those.

21 MR. COPELAND: I got family members watching this  
22 trial, and I don't want my nephew and them to hear the  
23 things that I may be involved in and think it's okay.

24 MS. HYLTON: But I think that's a separate  
25 conversation you can have with them as an honest

1 individual, like, "Look, nephews, I done lived the life  
2 that I don't want you to live. Don't go through what I've  
3 been through."

4 But that's not -- that's something you can have  
5 outside of being in jail because that's a better  
6 conversation you can have with your nephews in person.

7 But they shouldn't have to come to the DeKalb County  
8 Jail because you are being held in contempt. You can have  
9 that conversation with your nephews tomorrow in person.  
10 You can have that conversation with them. You can have  
11 that conversation with anybody. You know what's coming up  
12 this weekend. Why are we in jail? What are we doing?

13 MR. COPELAND: But y'all did this intentionally.

14 MS. HYLTON: No, we did not. You and I had this  
15 conversation, Mr. Copeland, on Friday morning.

16 MR. COPELAND: You knew my child birthday was next  
17 week.

18 MS. HYLTON: But what did I tell you? When we met  
19 with each other, I said to you -- you asked me, "What is  
20 the one thing that's going to get me in jail?" Didn't you  
21 ask me that? And what was my response? "If you plead the  
22 Fifth." And that is exactly what you did on the stand.

23 MR. COPELAND: But what did I tell you before I got  
24 to that point? I told you the whole time Tuesday,  
25 Wednesday, Thursday --

1 MS. HYLTON: But I told you we were giving you  
2 immunity.

3 MR. COPELAND: -- that I was pleading the Fifth.

4 MS. HYLTON: No, you did not.

5 MR. COPELAND: I told you every day I was pleading  
6 the Fifth.

7 MS. HYLTON: No, you did not, and we told you --

8 MR. COPELAND: I told you my concern.

9 MS. HYLTON: And we said we could give you immunity.  
10 You said your concern is what they know about you. And  
11 when you said that, I said, "Well, you know stuff about  
12 them." And then I said, "Whatever your concerns are, we  
13 can give you immunity."

14 MR. COPELAND: So I didn't tell you I lied on them to  
15 get myself out of the situation?

16 MS. HYLTON: You said you were a liar. That's what  
17 you said. You said you were a liar.

18 MS. BUMPUS: Was this recorded?

19 MS. HYLTON: No, no.

20 MS. BUMPUS: And did he ever say that Melnick was his  
21 attorney?

22 MS. HYLTON: No. This week -- when we first met you  
23 in the car on Friday, we asked you, "Is Mr. Melnick your  
24 attorney?" You said, "He's not my attorney. I haven't  
25 even talked to him."

1 MR. COPELAND: No, I never said he's not my attorney.  
2 I said I haven't talked to him.

3 MS. HYLTON: You said he's not your attorney, you  
4 haven't talked to him. Then we continued to have a  
5 conversation. At no point did you ever say to us, "Hey, I  
6 want Mr. Melnick here. Hey, put Mr. Melnick on the phone."

7 MR. COPELAND: You didn't make me feel like I needed  
8 him.

9 MS. HYLTON: But if you needed him, we would have  
10 said -- if you would have needed Mr. Melnick, we would have  
11 said to you, "Okay, just call him."

12 So, I mean, that is our position. We don't want you  
13 in jail. We just want you to be able to purge yourself by  
14 testifying. Whatever your truth is is what your truth is,  
15 but you've just got to answer the questions.

16 We believe that your -- whatever your truth is is  
17 what your truth is. We know what you said before. I don't  
18 know what you're going to say on the stand. But what we  
19 know is pleading the Fifth is going to keep you in custody.  
20 That's what I know. Now, how you answer your questions is  
21 how you answer your questions.

22 I know what you said before, and I know what you said  
23 later -- I mean, I know what you said before, and I don't  
24 know what you are going to say on the stand because you and  
25 I never went into full details about any of it. But what I

1 don't want is you to be sitting here in custody.

2 MR. COPELAND: You did it.

3 MS. HYLTON: I did not do it. You did it by pleading  
4 the Fifth.

5 MR. COPELAND: You told me -- before you went to the  
6 judge with whatever the thing called you went to him with,  
7 you told me that I can't -- when I'm asked a question, I  
8 can say, "I don't recall," or "I don't know." You told me  
9 that if I plead the Fifth -- I mean, something -- why would  
10 I plead the Fifth to something I ain't do? And I said that  
11 you don't know what I did and what I ain't do, and then you  
12 was like something.

13 And then y'all asked for this immunity, and I was  
14 like -- it was something. And then Friday -- Thursday or  
15 Friday came, and then y'all go tell me, "Oh, we went to the  
16 judge with this so you got to testify. If you don't  
17 testify, the judge gonna lock you up."

18 MS. HYLTON: Right. But that was based upon what  
19 you --

20 MR. COPELAND: But I told y'all that.

21 MS. HYLTON: No, you didn't.

22 MR. COPELAND: You said, "Why would I plead the Fifth  
23 to something I didn't do?" And I said, "You don't know  
24 what happened."

25 MS. HYLTON: And I said, "I don't know what happened.

1 Only you know and them know", I said. But you never said,  
2 "I am pleading the Fifth." You said, "What if I do this?  
3 What if I do this? What if I do this?"

4 MR. COPELAND: I told you, I said I'm going to plead  
5 the -- you said, "Why would you plead the Fifth to  
6 something that you know you didn't do?"

7 MS. BUMPUS: So if you didn't have immunity prior to,  
8 is that what you are saying, that you feel like -- he  
9 didn't have immunity prior to --

10 MR. COPELAND: Immunity came Friday right when I went  
11 to jail.

12 MS. HYLTON: The immunity only came after  
13 Mr. Melnick --

14 MS. BUMPUS: Hold on, hold on.

15 MS. HYLTON: The immunity came after Mr. Melnick sent  
16 us an email saying, "My client is pleading the Fifth."  
17 That was on Thursday evening at 6:00.

18 MS. BUMPUS: Okay.

19 MS. HYLTON: So after that, that was an emphatic, "He  
20 is pleading the Fifth."

21 MS. BUMPUS: Uh-huh.

22 MS. HYLTON: We came and we got this signed.

23 MS. BUMPUS: Uh-huh.

24 MS. HYLTON: And then Friday morning came.

25 MS. BUMPUS: Okay.

1 MS. HYLTON: So between Friday evening, Mr. Melnick  
2 reached out to us, said he represents him, he's pleading  
3 the Fifth.

4 MS. BUMPUS: Okay. And when was the last time you  
5 talked to him before Melnick got involved?

6 MS. HYLTON: We talked to him earlier that day on  
7 Thursday.

8 MS. BUMPUS: Okay. And then how did -- (Speaks  
9 inaudibly to Mr. Copeland.)

10 MR. COPELAND: He called me.

11 MS. BUMPUS: Okay. I was just trying to get a  
12 timeline.

13 MS. HYLTON: Sure. Right. So we have been talking  
14 since last Friday. So I met with Mr. Copeland last Friday  
15 I think out in the neighborhood. Then he came on Tuesday  
16 for court. We talked briefly on Tuesday. And then on  
17 Wednesday he came.

18 MR. COPELAND: Thursday.

19 MS. HYLTON: No -- I think he only came two days, so  
20 it had to be Wednesday and Thursday he came. It wasn't  
21 Tuesday. It was Wednesday and Thursday he came.

22 And then on Thursday, once we left is when  
23 Mr. Melnick reached out to us and said, "My client is  
24 pleading the Fifth." And at that point is when we went the  
25 next morning and got the immunity motion.

1           And then we spoke on Friday morning. I handed  
2 Mr. Copeland this agreement and let him know that he has  
3 immunity and that anything he says we can't use. And then  
4 Mr. Melnick came, and then we had court.

5           MS. BUMPUS: So you are pretty much saying you didn't  
6 ask for this?

7           MR. COPELAND: I didn't.

8           MS. HYLTON: But we gave it. He doesn't have to ask  
9 for it.

10          MS. BUMPUS: I know. I mean, he's just saying --

11          MS. HYLTON: Right. He doesn't have to ask for it,  
12 but to alleviate whatever his concerns were, we gave him  
13 immunity. He didn't have to ask for it.

14          MS. BUMPUS: So if he wouldn't have had this -- I'm  
15 just saying this so he can understand it. I'm walking him  
16 through.

17          MS. HYLTON: Uh-huh.

18          MS. BUMPUS: Would he still have had to testify, or  
19 would he have been able to plead the Fifth? That's what  
20 he's saying.

21          MS. HYLTON: If he did not have immunity?

22          MS. BUMPUS: Yes.

23          MS. HYLTON: Yes, he could plead the Fifth.

24          MR. COPELAND: That's what I'm --

25          MS. BUMPUS: That's what he's trying to say. He's

1 trying to say he didn't ask for this.

2 MS. HYLTON: But he doesn't have to ask for it. Now  
3 that we have given it to him -- because that's on us. So  
4 now that we have given it to him, it's an order. He can  
5 still choose -- if he's -- if this is the road he wants to  
6 take, then he'll just stay in custody until the trial is  
7 over. And when we say the trial is over, every last  
8 defendant has been tried. Not just these six, the other  
9 ones too.

10 MR. COPELAND: I done did longer time.

11 MS. HYLTON: All right. Mr. Copeland, I'm telling  
12 you that you are literally immune from prosecution from  
13 anything else you may say. That's that.

14 So the choice is always up to you, but we wanted to  
15 put on the record the State does not want you in custody.  
16 What the State would like you to do is purge yourself  
17 from --

18 MR. COPELAND: What purge yourself mean?

19 MS. HYLTON: Meaning that you are no longer in  
20 custody, and the way that you purge yourself is to testify.  
21 That is kind of how it happens, and that is what the State  
22 wants you to do. We don't want you in custody. I can't  
23 say that any other different way, but we don't want you in  
24 custody. The only thing that's holding you is you refusing  
25 to testify.

1           THE COURT:  So do you have any questions, any other  
2 questions?  Basically if you invoke the Fifth --

3           MR. COPELAND:  I don't trust -- I don't trust -- I  
4 don't know what's going on.  I don't trust nobody.  I trust  
5 her word, but I don't know what's going on, your Honor.

6           MS. HYLTON:  This is your insurance.  I don't know if  
7 you want to break that down to him.

8           MS. BUMPUS:  Well, he doesn't want that.

9           THE COURT:  But he's been given it.  See, that's the  
10 challenge, Mr. Copeland, is that if they didn't give you  
11 the immunity, you could invoke your Fifth Amendment  
12 privilege.

13           But what the State decided is they said your  
14 testimony is worth more to them at this point in time and  
15 they really want to know what you have to say.  So they  
16 have made a -- from the State's perspective, they have made  
17 a decision to give you immunity so you no longer can invoke  
18 your Fifth Amendment privilege.  You have to testify.

19           So that's the difference in this particular scenario,  
20 is that they have taken away -- well, you can still invoke  
21 your Fifth Amendment privilege.  You still can do that, but  
22 the consequence of invoking it is you will just remain in  
23 custody.

24           So if you testify, you get out of custody and you  
25 stay out of custody until you are done.

1 MR. COPELAND: And then if I don't testify, I have to  
2 stay in until when?

3 THE COURT: Until the trial is over. Until all the  
4 defendants have been -- I've got these six that we have  
5 right now, and then there's another six.

6 MS. HYLTON: No, there's another 12.

7 THE COURT: There's another 12 or thereabouts that  
8 are still outstanding in various forms or another.

9 MR. COPELAND: Can I speak with her for a second?

10 THE COURT: Yeah, sure.

11 (Judge Glanville, Assistant District Attorney Simone  
12 Hylton, Court Reporter Kristina Weaver, and Investigators  
13 Antonio Long and Rasheed Hamilton left chambers at  
14 10:17 a.m. and returned at 10:33 a.m.)

15 MR. COPELAND: My question is -- I can ask you a  
16 question?

17 THE COURT: Yes.

18 MR. COPELAND: So my question is -- so what I was  
19 just asking her was if you ask me a question and you feel  
20 as in I was lying about it, you will lock me back up?

21 MS. HYLTON: No. If you -- so you are saying you  
22 say, "I didn't talk to Damekion" -- well, no, I can't talk  
23 about that because the judge is in here.

24 You are asking, for example, if you said before that  
25 the sky was blue, and I asked you on the stand, "What color

1 is the sky," and you say, "I said it was red," I'm going to  
2 say, "No, back before you said it was blue." Is that what  
3 you are trying to ask me?

4 MS. BUMPUS: Uh-uh. So explain the independent  
5 evidence. If he says he did something, and you know he's  
6 not telling the truth, what happens?

7 MS. HYLTON: If he said he did something and he did  
8 not do that thing?

9 MS. BUMPUS: If you believe he did not, so if you  
10 believe that he's lying about that.

11 MS. HYLTON: Then no. If he admits to doing  
12 something on the stand --

13 MS. BUMPUS: Uh-huh.

14 MS. HYLTON: -- and he did not do that thing --

15 MS. BUMPUS: Uh-huh.

16 MS. HYLTON: -- I'm going to say, "Is this the first  
17 time you are saying that?"

18 MS. BUMPUS: And you have independent evidence to  
19 prove it wasn't him, then what?

20 MS. HYLTON: Then nothing. What do you mean, like?

21 MS. BUMPUS: So then he will be fine?

22 MS. HYLTON: Yes, but --

23 MS. BUMPUS: So you are okay with him if he got on  
24 the stand and said things that weren't true?

25 MS. HYLTON: No. I want him to tell the truth. What

1 have I always said to you? I want you to tell the truth.  
2 I don't know what's going to come out your mouth. I expect  
3 you to tell the truth.

4 If you say something that is inconsistent with what  
5 you said before, then I'm going to ask about the  
6 inconsistencies. But I expect you to tell the truth.

7 What you go on the stand and do, I don't know. I  
8 don't know what you are going to do. I want you to tell  
9 the truth. But I will deal with you not -- you saying  
10 something different in the manner that I normally do.

11 MR. COPELAND: If I'm saying something different,  
12 right -- so when the police question me, they done question  
13 me every time they lock me up. I don't know how many times  
14 that was. I done told them whatever different story I  
15 could think of to try to finesse my way out of the  
16 situation. I don't recall what I done told them.

17 MS. HYLTON: Okay. So you can say, "I don't recall."  
18 That is how that works, "I don't recall".

19 MS. BUMPUS: And he can say that to every single  
20 question?

21 MS. HYLTON: I would hope that that is not the truth  
22 because I think there are some things you do recall and  
23 some things you don't. But the things you don't recall,  
24 you don't recall. And then I will go through my process of  
25 what I do.

1           You can talk to him about what impeachment is. That  
2 won't get you locked up. Impeachment will not get you  
3 locked up. You can talk to him about what impeachment is.  
4 If he says, "I don't recall --

5           MR. COPELAND: What will get me locked up?

6           MS. HYLTON: What did I tell you?

7           MR. COPELAND: I don't know.

8           MS. HYLTON: What you did on Friday, "I plead the  
9 Fifth." If the Court instructs you --

10          MR. COPELAND: So the only thing that gets me locked  
11 up is pleading the Fifth?

12          MS. BUMPUS: Yes.

13          MS. HYLTON: The Court instructs you, "You need to  
14 answer the question," you say again, "I plead the Fifth,"  
15 again you -- that's what's going to get you locked up.

16          But if you answer the question, that will not get you  
17 locked up.

18          MR. COPELAND: So if you don't want me in jail, why  
19 you just don't let me go after the trial over with?

20          MS. HYLTON: You are in jail because you are not  
21 answering the questions.

22          THE COURT: Because you have been given immunity.

23          MS. HYLTON: Because you have been given immunity.  
24 You are only in jail because you got up here --

25          MR. COPELAND: Well, what about this? I answer the

1 questions. You take away immunity, I answer the questions,  
2 and I plead the Fifth --

3 MS. HYLTON: No --

4 MR. COPELAND: -- to questions that I feel  
5 incriminate me.

6 MS. HYLTON: But then that's --

7 MR. COPELAND: I won't plead the Fifth to things that  
8 don't incriminate me.

9 THE COURT: The State can still give you immunity.  
10 They can give immunity to whoever they want, okay, and they  
11 can make that choice. I don't even make that choice.

12 So if they -- like I said earlier, they want your  
13 testimony. They figure it's -- that the jury needs to hear  
14 what you have to say good, bad, or indifferent.

15 And what Ms. Hylton is telling you is just tell the  
16 truth as you know it and let her worry about -- I mean,  
17 even though you may have said different versions of  
18 whatever, that's for impeachment. That's not going to get  
19 you in trouble.

20 What will get you in trouble is you not -- is you  
21 just invoking your Fifth Amendment privilege because you  
22 have been given immunity. Or as Ms. Love said this  
23 morning, remember -- Ms. Love said if you lie, if you  
24 overtly lie about something, like if you tell a bold-faced  
25 whopper, then they can indict you on that particular

1 charge -- I mean, that particular false statement.

2 MR. COPELAND: That's what they're going to do.

3 MS. BUMPUS: That is what I was saying. You will be  
4 right back here.

5 MS. HYLTON: But if you say something that you know  
6 you did not do, like you admit to something you know you  
7 did not do, whether you --

8 MR. COPELAND: Like murder don't have, like, no  
9 statute of limitations, right?

10 MS. HYLTON: But if you didn't do it, I can't charge  
11 you with something you didn't do because I don't have any  
12 other evidence but you saying it.

13 MR. COPELAND: But y'all don't, like --

14 MS. BUMPUS: You can charge him with false statements  
15 and he will be back in jail. That is what I'm trying to  
16 say.

17 MS. HYLTON: But if I know that you are lying about  
18 that, I do not intend to do that. If I know right now he's  
19 lying, I know he's lying, I'm not going to charge you  
20 because I don't know your reason for doing that. But I'm  
21 not going to charge you when I know you didn't do what you  
22 are trying to say you did now. And that can be a part of  
23 this. I know you didn't do it.

24 MR. COPELAND: But it's up to the judge to do that.

25 MS. HYLTON: No. It's up to the State to bring

1 charges.

2 THE COURT: I don't have anything to do with that.

3 MS. HYLTON: He has nothing to do with bringing  
4 charges. That's up to the State of Georgia.

5 MR. COPELAND: Can I call -- can I talk to my family,  
6 and I will make my decision right after I hang up the  
7 phone?

8 MS. BUMPUS: He's saying he hasn't been able to speak  
9 to anybody.

10 MS. HYLTON: His sister just called us. She --

11 MR. COPELAND: Y'all done me wrong. Y'all just hold  
12 me in the jail, don't let me get no PIN number, no nothing.

13 MS. HYLTON: We have no knowledge. We did not know  
14 that you --

15 MS. BUMPUS: He hasn't been able to do anything,  
16 speak to anyone.

17 MR. COPELAND: The jail system down but y'all still  
18 putting people in.

19 MS. HYLTON: That part I don't know. I know we have  
20 been in communication with your sister. Your sister  
21 actually texted Ms. Lansiquot to make sure you were okay.  
22 We told her we physically had laid eyes on you.

23 I'll leave that up to the sheriffs. I don't know.

24 (Brief pause.)

25 MR. COPELAND: So what you think what she's saying?

1 MS. HYLTON: I can tell you right now --

2 MR. COPELAND: I'm talking about that locking me back  
3 up.

4 MS. HYLTON: We would have to bring charges. There  
5 would be no incentive --

6 MR. COPELAND: Y'all will.

7 MS. HYLTON: We've already had this discussion.

8 MR. COPELAND: Look what you did to me? You waited  
9 until Friday and did this. I done told you every day  
10 before Friday came that I was pleading the Fifth.

11 MS. HYLTON: No, you did not. As a matter of fact,  
12 our last --

13 THE COURT: Mr. Copeland, Mr. Copeland, let's see if  
14 we can get beyond this, okay, beyond what your concern is.

15 You could have invoked the Fifth Amendment privilege.  
16 The State could have turned around and said, "Stop," had  
17 me -- go ahead and filed that motion and given you  
18 immunity. It was going to -- I mean, they make that  
19 decision. They decided to make it on Friday.

20 So even if you would have been more comfortable  
21 testifying and invoking your Fifth Amendment privilege,  
22 they could decide you as a witness, they want your  
23 testimony more than they do you invoking your Fifth  
24 Amendment privilege so they give you immunity.

25 They gave you immunity, so you've got to testify

1 truthfully as to what your knowledge of the particular  
2 incident is.

3 I mean, so they were going to -- they could have done  
4 that anyway. Even if they put you on the stand, they could  
5 have said, "Stop", and gone ahead and given you immunity.  
6 They could have done that.

7 MR. COPELAND: So can I get it in some type of  
8 writing that if I was to testify that if she feels as in I  
9 lied about anything that they won't lock me back up?

10 THE COURT: Let me have that, Ms. Bumpus.

11 MS. BUMPUS: (Hands document to the Court.)

12 (Brief pause.)

13 THE COURT: Mr. Copeland, on page 2 of the order  
14 pursuant to O.C.G.A. 24-5-507: However, no testimony given  
15 by Kenneth Copeland as required under this order or any  
16 information directly or indirectly derived from the  
17 testimony of Kenneth Copeland given by Kenneth Copeland as  
18 required under this order shall be used against said  
19 Kenneth Copeland in any proceeding or prosecution for a  
20 crime or offense concerning which he testifies under this  
21 order.

22 Okay. So you testify about some aggravated assault  
23 or murder, they can't prosecute you on it because that is  
24 what it says on the order.

25 Okay. The only thing that will get you in trouble is

1 this next little paragraph: Kenneth Copeland shall be  
2 subject to prosecution or to penalty or forfeiture for any  
3 perjury, false swearing, or contempt committed in  
4 testifying or failing to testify in accordance with this  
5 order.

6 However, it is ordered that Kenneth Copeland shall  
7 not be required to produce evidence that can be used in any  
8 other court in this state, the United States, or any other  
9 state.

10 So basically if you commit perjury, false swearing,  
11 or contempt committed in testifying -- that means if you  
12 just invoke your Fifth Amendment privilege -- or failing to  
13 testify, you say, "I'm not going to testify." All right.  
14 So the only two real things you can kind of get in trouble  
15 for are perjury and false swearing. As long as you tell  
16 the truth.

17 Now, as Ms. Hylton and Ms. Bumpus said earlier, you  
18 may have told or been asked about situations over and over  
19 again. They may have changed. What the State is asking  
20 you to do is tell the version that really is the truth. If  
21 they want to impeach you, they can do that, or if the other  
22 side wants to impeach you, they can do that. You won't get  
23 in trouble for that.

24 MR. COPELAND: You said I will?

25 THE COURT: You will not. You will not. Impeachment

1 is not perjury or false swearing. Okay?

2 MR. COPELAND: But she said I can purge myself  
3 though.

4 MS. HYLTON: No, no, no. We're saying two different  
5 things. Sorry. Perjury is if you get on the stand and you  
6 say just a bold-faced lie, just something that is just  
7 wrong. Say you say, "I did something", and all the other  
8 times you have said, "I have not done it." And really  
9 while it's perjury, it's really just an inconsistent  
10 statement.

11 Like if you get on the stand and say, "I did X," but  
12 in 2015 you said, "I never did X," that is what I'm going  
13 to impeach. I'm going to impeach you on everything you  
14 said in 2015, meaning I'm going to say, "Okay, today you  
15 said I did X, but in 2015 --

16 (Lieutenant Dean entered chambers.)

17 LIEUTENANT DEAN: We have a security issue. We need  
18 to stop for a minute. If we can stop for a second, please.

19 (Judge Glanville and Lieutenant Dean exited chambers  
20 at 10:45 a.m. Judge Glanville returned to chambers at  
21 10:47 a.m.)

22 MS. HYLTON: I don't know what was told to you on  
23 Friday. I have no reason to want you in prison. You have  
24 spent enough time in prison for YSL, period. So why would  
25 I want that for you? That doesn't make no sense. I said

1 it to you before and I will say it to you again in front of  
2 all these people. It makes no sense.

3 MR. COPELAND: You just said I'm going to have to  
4 stay in jail until the last --

5 MS. HYLTON: If you don't testify. Get this part  
6 through your head. If you don't testify. That is the only  
7 thing that is holding you. That is literally the only  
8 thing holding you right now is the fact you keep saying,  
9 "I'm not going to testify" -- well, you haven't said it  
10 today -- "I'm not testifying. I plead the Fifth."

11 If you get up there and you -- I want you to tell the  
12 truth, like I said before. If you don't recall certain  
13 things, you can say you don't recall. That's fine. I want  
14 you to tell the truth. I don't expect you to remember  
15 every single detail from 2015. I just don't. No one here  
16 does.

17 But what I do expect for you to do is answer  
18 questions so we can get through this, so you can go home,  
19 be with your baby for her birthday, see these dogs deliver  
20 their babies, go talk to your nephews, and do all these  
21 other things --

22 MR. COPELAND: How you know about my dogs?

23 MS. HYLTON: Because you told me.

24 MR. COPELAND: Okay.

25 MS. BUMPUS: What's wrong?

1 MR. COPELAND: I'm stressing at another level like.  
2 MS. BUMPUS: I mean can he -- I'm saying --  
3 MR. COPELAND: I'm weak. Man, I'm not playing. I'm  
4 dead serious, man, like --  
5 MS. HYLTON: This is what our position is. We do not  
6 want him in custody. We want him to tell the truth. We  
7 want him to testify. That's what will get him out of jail.  
8 And, you know, you have to make --  
9 MS. BUMPUS: If he decides in two weeks he wants to  
10 testify, then what?  
11 MS. HYLTON: If he wants to stay in jail for  
12 two weeks then that's -- I don't know why you would want to  
13 stay in jail for two weeks. I have no idea.  
14 MS. BUMPUS: He just feels like he's under a lot of  
15 pressure right this second.  
16 MR. COPELAND: Even at the jail they are just -- you  
17 can't give me house arrest?  
18 MS. HYLTON: No. You can go home by taking the stand  
19 and testifying. That's what you --  
20 THE COURT: And come back tomorrow.  
21 MS. HYLTON: There's no -- we keep on saying "yet"  
22 but there is no crime. We keep on saying "yet". I don't  
23 know who is telling you about a crime. There is no crime.  
24 You have done nothing wrong except for not --  
25 MR. COPELAND: So why am I in jail then?

1 MS. HYLTON: Because you aren't testifying.

2 MR. COPELAND: But that ain't nothing wrong. It's  
3 not a crime.

4 MS. HYLTON: It's not a crime but you're in  
5 civil contempt.

6 THE COURT: Two things. Because you invoked your  
7 privilege after you have been given immunity, that is why  
8 you are in custody because -- you get out by testifying.  
9 So you testify, you get out.

10 That's why I was going to bring you -- why I brought  
11 you here early today, to just inquire about that. You can  
12 remain and hold your position of invoking the Fifth or not  
13 testifying, but you go back to prison -- you go back to  
14 jail because that's --

15 MR. COPELAND: You can't sentence me?

16 MS. BUMPUS: There's no sentence.

17 THE COURT: There is no sentence. The contempt is  
18 compliance. They want your testimony. That is all they  
19 want, whatever that may be.

20 MR. COPELAND: I don't know what it is, your Honor.

21 MS. HYLTON: So listen. You are in jail for failing  
22 to testify.

23 THE COURT: Failing to testify.

24 MS. HYLTON: Not for nothing else. There is no  
25 crime. You ain't done nothing. I don't know if people are

1 telling you that we are going to charge you with nothing.  
2 We are not charging you. The State charges you. There is  
3 nothing we're charging you with. You are only in custody  
4 because you have decided not to testify. That is it. Once  
5 you decide to testify --

6 THE COURT: Remember that word you were talking about  
7 purge?

8 MR. COPELAND: Uh-huh.

9 THE COURT: Okay. You can purge right now, purge,  
10 get yourself out of jail just by testifying.

11 MR. COPELAND: I can purge and get out of jail?

12 THE COURT: Yes, just by testifying.

13 MS. HYLTON: Not perjury.

14 THE COURT: Purge, meaning you can get out of jail.  
15 You can get out of jail, out of custody just by testifying.

16 MR. COPELAND: And what about the other one, the  
17 other word, perjury?

18 THE COURT: That's different.

19 MS. HYLTON: That's different.

20 THE COURT: That's a different word, okay.

21 MR. COPELAND: That can get me back in jail?

22 MS. HYLTON: Yes.

23 THE COURT: Perjury is --

24 MS. HYLTON: It's not -- what you are saying is not  
25 perjury. What you are saying is what we call a prior

1 inconsistent statement. Your example that you gave me,  
2 what if I said I did something and I know you didn't do it  
3 and you said before you didn't do it, that's not perjury.  
4 That is a prior inconsistent statement.

5 (Brief pause.)

6 MS. BUMPUS: You've got to make a decision.

7 So if he starts testifying today, he's going to go  
8 home today?

9 MS. HYLTON: He should, so long as he remains. But  
10 if you get up there and be like -- if you get to  
11 testifying, and then we get into it and you start saying,  
12 "I plead the Fifth", we're going to be back here again.

13 MS. BUMPUS: But if he says he don't recall to  
14 everything, he'll be okay?

15 MS. HYLTON: I'm not advising that, but so long as he  
16 answers the questions, that's fine. So long as he --

17 MR. COPELAND: I did these crimes. I'm telling you  
18 that.

19 MS. HYLTON: Okay. I don't know what you are talking  
20 about but --

21 MS. BUMPUS: I think -- are you saying you want to  
22 get up there on the stand and say something?

23 MR. COPELAND: (No response.)

24 MS. BUMPUS: Did we find out if he could talk to his  
25 family? No?

1 (Brief pause.)

2 MS. HYLTON: I mean, if it's okay, we got the  
3 sister's number.

4 MR. COPELAND: As my attorney you gotta --

5 MS. HYLTON: Let me -- if y'all want to talk, let me  
6 go somewhere where I can't hear you. The judge is over  
7 there so just speak low so he doesn't hear you.

8 THE COURT: Hold on.

9 (Judge Glanville handed a document to Attorney Kayla  
10 Bumpus and exited chambers with Assistant District Attorney  
11 Simone Hylton, Investigator Long, Investigator Hamilton,  
12 and Court Reporter Kristina Weaver from 10:53 a.m. to 11:28  
13 a.m.)

14 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Mr. Copeland, have you  
15 had an opportunity to talk with Ms. Bumpus, your lawyer,  
16 and Ms. Hylton, the State's counsel? Have you got any  
17 other questions?

18 MR. COPELAND: No, your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Is it your desire to give testimony  
20 today?

21 MR. COPELAND: Yes, sir.

22 THE COURT: Okay. All right then. Do you-all have  
23 some clothes for him?

24 MS. HYLTON: I don't know. Let me go take a look.  
25 What size are you?

1 MR. COPELAND: I can't hear you.  
2 MS. HYLTON: What size are you?  
3 MR. COPELAND: Little.  
4 INVESTIGATOR HAMILTON: We had a large jacket for him  
5 on Friday. Large.  
6 MS. HYLTON: You had a jacket for him?  
7 INVESTIGATOR HAMILTON: Yes.  
8 MS. HYLTON: Oh. But he can't wear a large.  
9 THE COURT: What is your waist size? 34?  
10 MR. COPELAND: 32.  
11 THE COURT: Chest, what are you, a 34? 34-36 chest?  
12 MS. HYLTON: Probably 36.  
13 MR. COPELAND: Not in my chest. What you mean?  
14 THE COURT: Size, size.  
15 MS. HYLTON: What size are you, small or medium?  
16 MR. COPELAND: Small or medium.  
17 THE COURT: They are going to try to get you some  
18 clothes so you don't have to testify wearing that jail  
19 uniform, okay?  
20 MR. COPELAND: Y'all don't wanna show the people how  
21 y'all did me?  
22 THE COURT: Look --  
23 MS. HYLTON: If we can't find clothes, then you may  
24 have to until tomorrow.  
25 MR. COPELAND: I prefer to go in like this.

1 MS. HYLTON: I understand what your preference is.  
2 MR. COPELAND: Nah, don't hide it.  
3 MS. BUMPUS: Can you make him put on clothes?  
4 MS. HYLTON: No.  
5 MR. COPELAND: I wanna go in there like this.  
6 MS. HYLTON: Fine with me.  
7 THE COURT: All right. Okay.  
8 MR. COPELAND: You ain't gonna try and lock me back  
9 up for this?  
10 MS. HYLTON: So long as you testify, we will get an  
11 order to get you released.  
12 MS. BUMPUS: Today.  
13 THE COURT: Whose copy is this?  
14 MS. HYLTON: You've got to make sure you come back  
15 now. I want to be real clear.  
16 MR. COPELAND: When have I ever ran?  
17 MS. HYLTON: You have not. That's the only thing.  
18 You have not.  
19 THE COURT: Whose copy is this?  
20 MS. HYLTON: That was ours. Do you want a copy? You  
21 can take it though.  
22 MS. BUMPUS: Okay.  
23 MS. HYLTON: Do you still have yours or you threw it  
24 away?  
25 MS. BUMPUS: I'm going to give him both of these

1 things so he can have some information.

2 MS. HYLTON: Okay.

3 THE COURT REPORTER: Are we off the record now?

4 THE COURT: Are we done?

5 MS. BUMPUS: Yes, I believe so.

6 THE COURT: Okay. We're good. See everybody  
7 downstairs in about ten minutes.

8 (The proceedings concluded at 11:31 a.m.)

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C-E-R-T-I-F-I-C-A-T-E

STATE OF GEORGIA:

COUNTY OF FULTON:

I hereby certify that the foregoing transcript was taken down, as stated in the caption, and the colloquies, questions and answers were reduced to typewriting under my direction; that the foregoing pages represent a true and correct record of the evidence given.

I further certify that in accordance with OCGA 9-11-28(a) I am not a relative, employee, attorney, or counsel of any party, nor am I financially interested in the action.

This the 1st day of July 2024.



KRISTINA WEAVER, RPR, CCR-B-1785