

1 juror who is relying on written notes to be given
2 greater weight solely because of his or her notes.

3 After your deliberations have been completed, the
4 notes will be delivered to me and I will personally
5 destroy them unread. You are instructed that although
6 notepads have been furnished, you are not required to
7 take notes.

8 State, would you like to make an opening at this
9 time?

10 **MS. LASKOFF:** Yes, Your Honor.

11 **THE COURT:** You may proceed.

12 **MS. LASKOFF:** Thank you.

13 May it please the Court. Counsel, members of the
14 jury. The next couple of days you are going to be
15 hearing evidence, evidence in the form of testimony
16 coming from this chair right here. I want you to pay
17 close attention because what the evidence is going to
18 show you is that on the night of October 25th, 2006, it
19 was about 1:30 in the morning. It was closing time at
20 Thee Dollhouse here in Orlando.

21 William Troy, or as his friends call him, Will,
22 his family calls him Billie was at Thee Dollhouse this
23 night with his friends Anthony Riollano, Francisco
24 Gotay and Andre Blanco. The four of them were inside
25 enjoying themselves and having a good time.

1 At one point the evidence is going to show you
2 that Will was in a part of the club where he was near
3 the door. And the evidence is going to show you that
4 there was a little bit of a conversation between the
5 defendant's girlfriend, Deanna Washington and Will.

6 A couple minutes pass, the bar closes. Everyone
7 starts to exit the club. At this point I want you to
8 listen to the eye witness testimony. I want you to
9 listen to Andre Blanco and Francisco Gotay as they talk
10 to -- about what they observed, what they saw, and what
11 transpired and the other friend, Anthony Riollano.

12 Also, you are going to hear testimony from
13 employees from Thee Dollhouse that worked there.
14 There's Phillip Westfall, he's the valet. There's
15 Justin Idle and a Leonard Bollanos, floor men and
16 security men there.

17 Okay, and what the evidence is going to show is
18 that the defendant and his girlfriend walked to their
19 car. The defendant, John Dobbs and Deanna Washington
20 got into their car. They sat inside of their car.
21 Then the evidence is going to also show that Will,
22 Andre, Frank and Anthony walked to their car
23 approximately six parking spots away.

24 The defendant and his girlfriend inside of their
25 car, these guys start talking and they make some

1 comment to them. Okay? The defendant doesn't like the
2 comments that are coming from the four guys. The
3 evidence is going to show that instead of proceeding in
4 his car, driving out of Thee Dollhouse parking lot at
5 this point in his car, as he already was, he gets out
6 of his car.

7 Okay. He gets out of his vehicle, walks to the
8 back of his car and then I want you to listen is Andre,
9 as Andre explains to you how he and the defendant met
10 up. Both were obviously in a fighting stance. Okay.
11 Fight, one-on-one, what's the big deal? The evidence
12 is going to show you what the big deal is.

13 The evidence is going to show you that this man
14 sitting here today brought a knife to a fist fight. He
15 struck Andre, immediately slicing his mouth. He struck
16 him again, and he swang wildly. Seeing this, the other
17 guys come over to protect their friend, obviously.
18 They are seeing him bleeding and struggling and falling
19 to the ground.

20 The evidence is going to show the defendant, one
21 by one cut, swung, sliced, stabbed Andre Blanco
22 multiple times. Fortunately, he survived.

23 The evidence is also going to show you that
24 Francisco Gotay was stabbed and sliced multiple times
25 and he survived. However, unfortunately William Troy

1 was not lucky enough to survive that night. The
2 defendant who should have, the defendant who could
3 have, if only he would have left, William Troy would be
4 alive today. But instead, he was stabbed twice in the
5 chest, once in the stomach, sliced in the arm.

6 You're also going to hear evidence the defendant
7 never displayed his knife. There is only one witness
8 that really said, you know what? I think he might have
9 had something, and you know what? The victims don't
10 even realize the defendant has a knife.

11 Okay. Then you are going to hear after they are
12 all laying, they are tending to Will, tending to their
13 injuries, the defendant and his girlfriend get in their
14 car.

15 The evidence is going to show you they didn't go
16 to the police. They didn't call 911. They didn't seek
17 help. They fled from the scene. And at this point,
18 one of the gentlemen who worked across the street,
19 Mr. Hanzel Holiday is summoned by one of the employees,
20 Phillip or Alan Westfall of Thee Dollhouse parking lot.
21 They are straight across the street. And Mr. Westfall
22 says, hey, follow them. We just had a big problem.
23 Don't let them get away essentially.

24 So the evidence is going to show you that what
25 Mr. Holiday does is he proceeds to follow the defendant

1 and his girlfriend in their Acura. Remember it is
2 approximately 2:00 in the morning. He drives up,
3 Mr. Hanzel Holiday, to the defendant. They are driving
4 down the road. The evidence is going to show you at
5 this point the defendant picks a gun up, out of his
6 lap, points it at him, at Mr. Holiday. Upon seeing
7 this, in fear for his life, frightened the defendant is
8 going to shoot him and injure him, Mr. Holiday slams on
9 the breaks, does an immediate u-turn and listen to him
10 how he believes that at this point the defendant shot
11 that gun.

12 The evidence is going to show further, at this
13 point, that law enforcement has been called and
14 received a description of the defendant's vehicle, the
15 silver Acura fleeing the scene in the direction. They
16 catch up with the defendant. They find the defendant
17 and they pull him over.

18 I want you to listen carefully to the deputies,
19 Hudgins and Mercado. Deputy Hudgins and Mercado as
20 they describe to you when they pull the defendant over,
21 in the center console of the defendant's vehicle
22 there's a switchblade knife wrapped in tissue, covered
23 in blood. Secondly, in the back seat there's a
24 firearm.

25 Now, you're probably going to hear this was

1 self-defense. The evidence is going to show you this
2 wasn't self-defense. You don't bring a knife to a fist
3 fight. You don't keep going if you can leave. When
4 you are in a car, you leave. This was not
5 self-defense.

6 It is the State's position that all of the
7 evidence is going to be quite clear. It was something
8 different. It was an enraged man who's going to prove
9 a point that these guys aren't going to say something
10 to him. So instead of leaving and driving out of the
11 parking lot, he's gonna get out. He's gonna have a
12 confrontation, and he's going to settle the matter with
13 ill will, a depraved heart. He killed William Troy.
14 He committed aggravated battery on Francisco Gotay and
15 Andre Blanco. He committed an aggravated assault on
16 Hanzel Holiday, and he shot from a moving vehicle in
17 the process.

18 It is the State's position that at the close of
19 the evidence, you will find the defendant is, in fact,
20 guilty of all of these offenses. And I want you to
21 recall the defendant is presumed innocent. However, to
22 be presumed innocent is one thing, and to actually be
23 innocent is another. It is the State's position that
24 this defendant --

25 **MS. CHIEN:** Objection. Can we approach?

1 **THE COURT:** You may.

2 (Conference at the Bench held on the record.)

3 **MS. CHIEN:** Judge, the standard is not innocence.

4 **THE COURT:** I can't hear you.

5 **MS. CHIEN:** The standard is not innocence. The
6 standard is he's presumed innocent.

7 **THE COURT:** All right. Overruled. Thank you.

8 (Whereupon, the following was in open court.)

9 **MS. LASKOFF:** It is the State's position that he
10 is not innocent and that he is, in fact, guilty of all
11 of these. And I cannot implore you enough, listen to
12 the testimony. And I cannot explain to you enough as
13 we talked about in jury selection, this isn't C.S.I
14 this is real life. Okay? Thank you.

15 **THE COURT:** Defense, would you like to make an
16 opening at this time?

17 **MS. CHIEN:** Yes, Your Honor.

18 **THE COURT:** You may proceed.

19 **MS. CHIEN:** Thank you. Late at night four people
20 came after one. They surrounded, they cut and they
21 beat him to the ground. He was scared. He thought he
22 was going to die. And he had no choice but to defend
23 himself.

24 On October 24th, 2006, Mr. Dobbs and his
25 girlfriend, Deanna Washington, they went to Thee