

1 charges because he was defending himself and he was
2 defending his girlfriend. Thank you.

3 **THE COURT:** State, you may call your first
4 witness.

5 **MS. LASKOFF:** Andre Blanco.

6 Thereupon,

7 **ANDRE BLANCO**

8 was called as a witness and, having first been duly sworn,
9 testified as follows:

10 **THE COURT:** You may inquire.

11 **DIRECT EXAMINATION**

12 **BY MS. LASKOFF:**

13 **Q** Sir, can you state your name for the record?

14 **A** Andre Blanco.

15 **Q** And Mr. Blanco, how old are you?

16 **A** I am 31 years old.

17 **Q** All right. Now, back on October 25th, 2006, were
18 you with some of your friends at Thee Dollhouse?

19 **A** Yes, I was.

20 **Q** On can you tell the jury who you were with at Thee
21 Dollhouse?

22 **A** I was with Frank Gotay, Anthony Riollano and
23 William Troy.

24 **Q** Okay. Do you remember what time you got to Thee
25 Dollhouse?

1 **A** I'd say between the hours of 12 and 1.

2 **Q** Between 12 and 1. Okay. Why were you guys there?

3 **A** We were hanging out, decided to go there. We came
4 from the Orlando Magic game.

5 **Q** Okay. And while you're in there, what were you
6 all doing?

7 **A** We were sitting down in the VIP section, having a
8 couple of drinks.

9 **Q** Okay. And while you guys were there, what was the
10 atmosphere like in the group?

11 **A** It was good, casual, just having fun.

12 **Q** Was the club crowded this night?

13 **A** Too crowded to where you would bump into somebody
14 if you started walking, no.

15 **Q** Okay. And now, were you with all four guys, all
16 four of you together most of the night or was there a point
17 where some of you did one thing?

18 **A** No, we was all in general right here, like a
19 little square section roped off by a little rope to where
20 the VIP people stay here and a waitress would bring our
21 drinks.

22 **Q** So you guys were in the VIP area?

23 **A** Yes.

24 **Q** So now, for those of us who don't frequent Thee
25 Dollhouse, what is the difference between the VIP area and

1 the other parts of the club?

2 A The only part is that it is sectioned off to where
3 really nobody can come up there unless you buy a bottle.

4 Q So you have to buy a certain bottle to get up
5 there?

6 A Exactly.

7 Q So how long is it that you guys were in Thee
8 Dollhouse this evening?

9 A About a good hour.

10 Q For about an hour?

11 A Yeah.

12 Q Now, while you were inside the club, were there
13 any problems, did anybody -- were there any arguments or
14 disagreements or confrontations with anybody?

15 A No, not nothing at all.

16 Q Okay. Did you see anybody physically get into a
17 fight or anything inside of the club?

18 A No.

19 Q Okay. Did the atmosphere remain just relaxed that
20 you were talking about?

21 A Throughout the whole night everything was good.

22 Q Okay. Now, was there a point that you actually
23 left the club?

24 A Yes, it was, when the light came on.

25 Q And what time is that?

1 **A** I think it is at 2:00 a.m.

2 **Q** At 2:00 a.m., is that also when the club closes?

3 **A** Exactly.

4 **Q** All right. Now, did everybody walk out of the
5 club at the same time?

6 **A** No. No we didn't.

7 **Q** Can you describe to the jury who all walked out
8 first?

9 **A** I was the first one to exit the club, then my
10 friend Frank Gotay, he exited with me at the same time and I
11 approached my car.

12 **Q** Now, where were Will and Anthony?

13 **A** They were still inside the club, closing out the
14 tab.

15 **Q** And when you went out to the car, whose car was it
16 that you came in?

17 **A** My vehicle.

18 **Q** It was your car?

19 **A** Yes.

20 **Q** And it is a Chrysler 300?

21 **A** Yes, it is.

22 **Q** And what happened at this point, did you see Will
23 and Anthony come out?

24 **A** When I got to the car, Will and Anthony came out.
25 On the way out, they was arguing -- well, actually Will was

- 1 arguing.
- 2 **Q** Who was he arguing with?
- 3 **A** With some lady.
- 4 **Q** Can you give a physical description of what this
- 5 lady looked like?
- 6 **A** No, I cannot.
- 7 **Q** White lady, black lady, Hispanic lady?
- 8 **A** I would say like a reddish black.
- 9 **Q** Could you hear what they were arguing about, what
- 10 the words were that they were exchanging?
- 11 **A** I really can't hear because it was a far distance,
- 12 but it was a commotion.
- 13 **Q** Okay. And what makes you say that?
- 14 **A** Because it drewed (sic) my attention at this time.
- 15 **Q** Were their voices loud?
- 16 **A** Yes, it was.
- 17 **Q** Were they both having loud voices?
- 18 **A** Yes.
- 19 **Q** The woman and the man or --
- 20 **A** No.
- 21 **Q** The woman and Will were both loud?
- 22 **A** Exactly.
- 23 **Q** Was Will being physical with the woman?
- 24 **A** No.
- 25 **Q** Was he getting in her face?

- 1 **A** No.
- 2 **Q** And then what happened at that point?
- 3 **A** At that point, umm, the gentleman and the lady
4 were in the car. They got into their car.
- 5 **Q** What gentleman and what lady?
- 6 **A** John Dobbs.
- 7 **Q** Okay. Well, let me ask you this. The lady, is it
8 the same lady that Will was having the confrontation with?
- 9 **A** Yes.
- 10 **Q** Okay. And who's this John Dobbs that you are
11 describing?
- 12 **A** The guy I got stabbed by.
- 13 **Q** What happened?
- 14 **A** Umm, when the guy got into the car and the lady
15 got into the car, they drove like in the parking lot to
16 another section into the parking lot which was parallel to
17 my car, and the gentleman jumped out of the car. When he
18 jumped out, he lunged at my face.
- 19 **Q** He what?
- 20 **A** He lunged at my face. I thought I got punched,
21 hard, because I fell to the ground, but I actually got
22 stabbed in my face.
- 23 **Q** Was Frank with you right then?
- 24 **A** Yes, he was.
- 25 **Q** And where were Will and Anthony at this point?

1 **A** They were still by the front of the club,
2 approaching towards my car.

3 **Q** And did you approach their car?

4 **A** No, I did not.

5 **Q** Now, what happened when the lunging happened?

6 **A** When I got hit, I spun around to the floor. I
7 held my balance with my right hand. I got back up and saw
8 the body that actually hit me, ran after him, grabbed him by
9 the back of the neck, started hitting him there.

10 **Q** Okay. Now, do you see this guy that you are
11 talking about that hit you and knocked you to the ground?

12 **A** I can't physically describe him.

13 **Q** Uh-huh.

14 **A** Because when I got hit, I got dazed.

15 **Q** Okay.

16 **A** So I can't describe him. No, I cannot.

17 **Q** Okay. And what happened, did you get hurt?

18 **A** After, yeah, after I went after him and I grabbed
19 him by the back of the neck and started hitting him, my body
20 started feeling weak, so I walked away from the actual
21 confrontation and I started to lose, I guess, consciousness
22 because I was -- I guess I was losing blood. I didn't
23 realize I was losing blood, but I felt real weak and faint.
24 As I looked over to the left I saw Frank. I guess he was
25 trying to help me because I got hit and he got stabbed as

1 well, and then Will and the gentleman were scuffling
2 together. They were tied up together, and when I looked
3 over, I see Will on the ground.

4 I ran over to Will. I grabbed him by his face,
5 saying try to stay with me, stay with me. Everything is
6 going to be all right. And when I look at his stomach, he's
7 bleeding out of the stomach as well, and then the gentleman
8 got into his car with the girl and drove off.

9 Q Now, I am going to show you what has been marked
10 for identification purposes as Composite D.

11 MS. LASKOFF: If I can approach the witness?

12 MS. CHIEN: Objection. May we approach?

13 THE COURT: You may.

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

15 MS. VICKERS: Your Honor, first of all, can we get
16 a rule to have the State stop swaying them. She can
17 hold them.

18 MS. LASKOFF: I didn't hear what you said.

19 MS. VICKERS: We ask that the Court instruct the
20 State not to hold the pictures up. Where I was
21 sitting, I could clearly see. She is kind of sorting
22 through the photos. I am not saying you are doing it
23 on purpose, but I believe the pictures are held at an
24 angle where they can see them before they are
25 introduced. I would ask that that take place.

1 **THE COURT:** Let's make sure you hold them where
2 the jury can't see them. Your table is a much
3 different location. What is your objection?

4 **MS. CHIEN:** We haven't had a chance to review the
5 things that -- the photos that Ms. Laskoff would like
6 to present.

7 Judge, some of these are cumulative.

8 **THE COURT:** I need you to tell me which ones.

9 **MS. CHIEN:** This one, this one, this is the same
10 photo.

11 **THE COURT:** Are you moving them in through this
12 witness?

13 **MS. LASKOFF:** Yes.

14 **THE COURT:** So you don't want this one in?

15 **MS. LASKOFF:** That's fine.

16 **THE COURT:** So you are removing the ones that they
17 had a cumulative objection to?

18 **MS. LASKOFF:** Yes.

19 **THE COURT:** Which are D4 and D5. Okay. Thank
20 you.

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

22 **MS. LASKOFF:** If I can approach the witness, Your
23 Honor?

24 **THE COURT:** You may.
25

1 **BY MS. LASKOFF:**

2 **Q** I am showing you what has been marked as Composite

3 D. If you can review these and look at those?

4 **A** (Witness complies).

5 **Q** Do you recognize what those are?

6 **A** Yes, I do.

7 **Q** And are they true and accurate representations of
8 what they are?

9 **A** Yes, they are.

10 **Q** What are they?

11 **A** They are pictures of me after I got stabbed in the
12 hospital.

13 **Q** Okay.

14 **MS. LASKOFF:** Your Honor, at this time we'd move
15 to have -- I think it was marked as D into evidence as
16 State's 1.

17 **THE COURT:** All right. And that's the modified D?

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

19 **THE COURT:** Any further objection?

20 **MS. CHIEN:** No, Your Honor.

21 **THE COURT:** It'll be admitted as State's 1.

22 **BY MS. LASKOFF:**

23 **Q** Now, what I am going to do is --

24 **THE COURT:** If you could hand them to the clerk so
25 that she can mark them.

1 **MS. LASKOFF:** If I have permission to publish them
2 to the jury, Your Honor?

3 **THE COURT:** And when you're showing the individual
4 photographs, if you could indicate on the record what
5 the number is on the back of each that is written in
6 pen.

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

8 **BY MS. LASKOFF:**

9 **Q** Did you have to go get treatment for what happened
10 to you that night?

11 **A** Yes, I did.

12 **Q** And what treatment was it that you needed?

13 **A** Stitches, a lot of stitches.

14 **Q** Okay. Can you show the jury -- you don't have to
15 remove your clothing, but point on your body where did you
16 have to get stitches.

17 **A** I got stitches on my right face, right here on my
18 left cheek, right here on my forearm, underneath here, and
19 right here by my heart.

20 **Q** And do you have -- are those scars on your face --

21 **A** Yes, they are.

22 **Q** -- as a result of that night?

23 **A** Yes.

24 **Q** Did you ever see a knife?

25 **A** No, I did not.

- 1 **Q** What cut you?
- 2 **A** I don't know.
- 3 **Q** Did you ever see Will with a knife?
- 4 **A** No.
- 5 **Q** Did you see Frank with a knife?
- 6 **A** No.
- 7 **Q** How about Anthony?
- 8 **A** No.
- 9 **Q** Did you see anybody with a gun?
- 10 **A** No.
- 11 **Q** Okay. Now, if you could just go ahead and turn
12 around, they are going to show up, and now, tell the jury
13 what is this a photograph of?
- 14 **A** This is a photograph of my chest and on the left
15 side of my chest is where I got stabbed.
- 16 **Q** Okay. Can you use the pointer to show the jury
17 where you are talking about?
- 18 **A** Right there.
- 19 **Q** And what treatment did you get for that?
- 20 **A** Staples.
- 21 **Q** And I was just referring to D6. Now I am going to
22 show you -- what is D5?
- 23 **A** That's where I got stabbed at, right there.
- 24 **Q** Okay. And what medical treatment was required for
25 that?

1 **A** Stitches.

2 **Q** Okay. Now, I am showing you D4. D4, can you show
3 the jury what is this a picture of?

4 **A** That's a picture of me getting -- I got stabbed on
5 the left cheek, right there.

6 **Q** Okay. I am showing you D3. What is this a
7 photograph of?

8 **A** I got stabbed right there, underneath my left arm.

9 **Q** All right. And what is that silver thing in it?

10 **A** Staples.

11 **Q** Okay. Showing you D2, what is that a photograph
12 of?

13 **A** That's, again, my left chest by where my heart is
14 at.

15 **Q** And does that a have a staple in it?

16 **A** Yes, it does.

17 **Q** And I am showing you D1. Oops, sorry. What is
18 that a picture of?

19 **A** That's a picture of my right forearm. Where I got
20 --

21 **Q** And what is in that?

22 **A** A staple as well.

23 **Q** Where were these pictures taken, do you recall?

24 **A** In the hospital.

25 **Q** I am going to show what you has been marked as

1 Composite C. Was anybody saying anything while this fight
2 was going on?

3 A While the actual confrontation was going on?

4 Q Right.

5 A No, not that I can recall.

6 Q Was it an instance where he was in his car and all
7 four of you approached his car?

8 A No.

9 Q Okay. And did the four of you attack him?

10 A No. We did not.

11 Q Okay. Have you ever been convicted of a felony?

12 A Yes, I have.

13 Q How many times?

14 A A couple, about three or four times.

15 Q Okay. And can you tell the jury if on this night,
16 did you have a gun or did you have a knife?

17 A No, I did not.

18 Q All right. Was the defendant saying anything when
19 he was cutting you?

20 A No.

21 Q And stabbing at you?

22 A No, he wasn't.

23 Q Did he say anything to any of the people that you
24 heard?

25 A No, not that I can recall, no.

1 **Q** All right. And how about Will, did you hear any
2 other words besides what you heard Will and this woman
3 exchanging, did you hear any other arguments before the
4 defendant came?

5 **A** No. The only thing that I did hear was a lady
6 saying, these guys are too slow, they are too slow, and then
7 that's when they jumped in their car.

8 **Q** Now, which lady is it that said this, was it the
9 lady --

10 **A** It was the lady that came with the gentleman that
11 was in the car. So I don't know her name. I can't give you
12 her name.

13 **Q** Was it the same lady that Will was walking with in
14 the club?

15 **A** Yes.

16 **Q** Was it the same lady that was with the guy that
17 stabbed you?

18 **A** Yes.

19 **Q** Was she involved in the fight?

20 **A** Yes.

21 **Q** And how was it that she was involved in the fight?

22 **A** Because she was hitting me from the back, on the
23 back of my neck.

24 **Q** All right. Did she have a weapon of any sort?

25 **A** Not that I can recall.

1 Q All right, and did you attack her?

2 A Not at the time, no, I did not.

3 Q Okay. Was there a time that you did attack her,
4 the way you said that?

5 A I never attacked her.

6 Q Okay. Did anybody in your group attack her?

7 A No.

8 Q Did anybody say attack her, or get her?

9 A No.

10 MS. LASKOFF: Your Honor, if we can approach?

11 THE COURT: You may.

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

13 MS. CHEI: Same objection. It is cumulative. C1
14 and C4 are cumulative.

15 THE COURT: Pick one.

16 MS. CHIEN: They are all cumulative.

17 THE COURT: You do not agree that they are
18 cumulative?

19 MS. VICKERS: Those are the ones that we agreed
20 to.

21 THE COURT: The defense has no objection to C5, 6
22 and 7. Your objection -- your objection is to C4?

23 MS. CHIEN: Taken together with 1, 2 and 3, they
24 are cumulative.

25 THE COURT: I haven't seen 1, 2 and 3.

1 **MS. LASKOFF:** I have gone -- I have 3 and 2. I
2 was just going to explain, this is going to show the
3 relation to see where the fight was in relation to the
4 spots and this is just a closer shot of the efforts
5 that were taken to --

6 **THE COURT:** The cumulative objection will be
7 overruled.

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

9 **MS. LASKOFF:** All right. If I may approach, Your
10 Honor?

11 **THE COURT:** You may.

12 **BY MS. LASKOFF:**

13 **Q** I am showing you what has been marked as Exhibit
14 Composite C. If you could just look through those. You can
15 just put them down so everybody is not seeing them. Do you
16 recognize what those are photos of?

17 **A** Yes.

18 **Q** And do they truly and accurately represent what
19 they are photographs of?

20 **A** Yes.

21 **Q** And what are they photographs of?

22 **A** They are photographs of mine's (sic), Will's and
23 probably somebody else's T-shirts in the parking lot of the
24 strip club.

25 **Q** Okay.

1 **MS. LASKOFF:** Your Honor, at this time we'd move
2 to have C moved in as Composite C 1 through 7 as
3 State's 2.

4 **THE COURT:** Any objection, other than previously
5 noted?

6 **MS. CHIEN:** No.

7 **THE COURT:** They'll be admitted as State's
8 Composite 2.

9 **BY MS. LASKOFF:**

10 **Q** Now, were there other people out in the parking
11 lot with you that were not part of this stabbing incident?

12 **A** Yes, it was, the valet guy.

13 **Q** There was a valet guy?

14 **A** Yes.

15 **Q** And who else -- are you aware of other people?

16 **A** No, not that I am aware of.

17 **Q** And what was it that this valet guy did, did you
18 see him?

19 **A** Yes. I mean, as in towards the fight or what does
20 he do for his job?

21 **Q** No, no. While this incident was going on, while
22 the stabbing happened, what did you see the valet guy doing?

23 **A** He was basically watching what was going on, and
24 then after the Acura took off, he followed the Acura.

25 **Q** Okay. And now who was in the Acura?

1 **A** The two people -- well, the person that stabbed me
2 and the girl.

3 **Q** Okay. And was there a point that anybody fell
4 down?

5 **A** Yes.

6 **Q** Who fell down?

7 **A** Will fell down, and I think Frank also as well
8 fell down.

9 **Q** Okay. And when Will fell down, what was happening
10 right before he fell down?

11 **A** Before he fell down, a lot of commotion because
12 people were bleeding and nobody knew where they were
13 bleeding from and how they were bleeding and then when I
14 really focused on what was going on, I looked over to my
15 left and saw that Will was on the ground and rushed over to
16 him to help him, save him.

17 **Q** Okay. Now, I'm going to show you C7. If you
18 could just turn around and look at this --

19 **MS. LASKOFF:** And I didn't ask permission to
20 publish these to the jury, Your Honor. I am sorry?

21 **THE COURT:** You may.

22 **MS. LASKOFF:** Thank you.

23 **BY MS. LASKOFF:**

24 **Q** Do you recognize what this photograph is?

25 **A** Yes.

1 Q And what is that?

2 A The parking lot of Thee Dollhouse.

3 Q All right. And whose vehicle is that on the
4 right-hand-side with the door?

5 A That's my vehicle.

6 Q Okay. Can you use the pointer just so the jury
7 knows?

8 A My vehicle is right here.

9 Q All right. And how come the door is open, do you
10 know?

11 A Because I started the car so I could leave when I
12 was waiting for Anthony and Will to come out.

13 Q Now, in relation to your car, where was it that
14 the defendant pulled up his car?

15 A Right about right there.

16 Q All right. And did he and the girl sit in the car
17 or did they get out of the car immediately, what happened?

18 A The car originally started from over here, in this
19 section somewhere around here. It drove in the parking lot
20 and parked itself right here and then the two people got out
21 of the car.

22 Q Okay. I am showing you C5. Now, what is this a
23 picture of?

24 A It is the parking lot of Thee Dollhouse where the
25 valets actually park their cars.

1 Q Okay. Is that where that guy was that you are
2 talking about?

3 A Yeah. He's generally in this area right around
4 here.

5 Q And in relation to that, where is your car and
6 where did the stabbing take place?

7 A My car is somewhere on the other side of this
8 vehicle, right here, and the stabbing is over here, by this
9 tree around here.

10 Q Okay. And I am showing you C1. Now, is -- this
11 is again your car, right here?

12 A Yes. Yes, it is.

13 Q And can you, what is all this stuff right here?

14 A I guess that's my garment. I took off my tank
15 top, so probably in there. My tank top is in there.

16 Q Okay.

17 A And I don't know whose other items those are, but
18 they are somebody's.

19 Q Okay. Now, where is it that Will ended up?

20 A Will ended up somewhere around this area right
21 here.

22 Q Okay. Now, do you know why there's a bucket
23 there?

24 A No, I do not.

25 Q Now, on this photograph, can you utilize that and

1 show the jury where you came walking out of the club?

2 A From this area here. If you start right here,
3 this is where the front of the club is at pretty much.

4 Q Okay.

5 A And I started walking towards my car, right here.

6 Q Okay.

7 A Turned on my car, and when I turned it on, I came
8 back outside my car and stood right here, because I heard
9 the argument.

10 Q And where was the argument taking place?

11 A Right around this area right around here.

12 Q All right. And then where did the girl and the
13 guy that stabbed you go?

14 A They got in their car and drove it right around
15 here.

16 Q All right. And at this time I am going to show
17 you State's Composite B.

18 MS. LASKOFF: If I could approach the witness?

19 THE COURT: You may.

20 BY MS. LASKOFF:

21 Q If you could look at those.

22 THE COURT: You can return the other items to the
23 clerk so they don't get mixed up or lost.

24 BY MS. LASKOFF:

25 Q Do you recognize what this is?

1 **A** Yes.

2 **Q** And what is this?

3 **A** It is the vehicle that two people were in.

4 **Q** Which two people?

5 **A** The person that stabbed me and also the girl.

6 **MS. LASKOFF:** Your Honor, at this time we move to
7 have Exhibit W moved into evidence, I believe as
8 State's 3.

9 **THE COURT:** Have you shown it to defense counsel?

10 **MS. CHIEN:** I have no objection.

11 **THE COURT:** All right. It will be admitted as
12 State's Composite Exhibit 3.

13 **MS. LASKOFF:** If I can publish it to the jury?

14 **BY MS. LASKOFF:**

15 **Q** I am showing you B3. Now, which side of the
16 vehicle was the defendant on, or the guy that stabbed you
17 on?

18 **A** Right here.

19 **Q** So was he in the driver's seat?

20 **A** Yes.

21 **Q** Was he in the car?

22 **A** Yes.

23 **Q** And where was the girl?

24 **A** In the passenger.

25 **Q** And this is the same girl that was in the argument

1 with Will?

2 A Yes.

3 Q All right. And she was inside the car?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Were the doors shut or open, or do you recall?

6 A Well, they both came out of the car when they
7 drove to the spot.

8 Q Okay.

9 A They were -- the doors were closed, then when she,
10 when he parked, they both jumped out.

11 Q Okay. And did you watch the vehicle drive away?
12 Did you observe it leave the parking lot?

13 A Not really because I was attending to Will.

14 Q Okay. Now, what efforts did you do in taking care
15 of Will? What was going on?

16 A I was rubbing him on his face and then on his
17 chest to keep him at least alive with me so that he wouldn't
18 faint off.

19 Q Was he talking to you?

20 A No, he was breathing. I could see that his
21 stomach was breathing because every time he would breathe
22 out, the blood would come out of his chest.

23 Q Okay.

24 A And then his eyes were glossy. He was staring
25 into the sky. There wasn't no movement into his eyes. I was

1 rubbing him to keep him comfortable until the ambulance
2 came.

3 Q Was he talking or making any sounds?

4 A No.

5 Q And where was it that you observed him bleeding
6 from?

7 A In the stomach.

8 Q Okay.

9 A He got two, two openings in his stomach.

10 Q Was his shirt on or was it off at this point?

11 A At that point I think it was off.

12 Q Okay.

13 MS. LASKOFF: If I could approach the witness,
14 Your Honor?

15 THE COURT: You may.

16 BY MS. LASKOFF:

17 Q I am showing you what has been marked as State's

18 A. Do you recognize this?

19 A Yes.

20 Q And can you tell the jury what that is?

21 A William Troy.

22 Q Is this your friend you have been talking about?

23 A Yeah. (Crying).

24 MS. LASKOFF: Your Honor, at this time we move to
25 have State's A into evidence, or Exhibit A into

1 evidence as State's Exhibit 4.

2 **THE COURT:** Any objection?

3 **MS. CHIEN:** Objection to the relevance of that
4 photograph.

5 **THE COURT:** Overruled. It'll be admitted as
6 State's 4.

7 **BY MS. LASKOFF:**

8 **Q** So that's Will?

9 **A** That's Will.

10 **Q** Was there a time that the police came?

11 **A** (nods head).

12 **Q** How much after that happened -- are you okay? You
13 need a minute?

14 **A** (nods head).

15 **Q** Okay.

16 **A** The cops came right after, umm, I guess the valet
17 guy must have call the cops and then the cops and ambulance
18 came.

19 **Q** Okay. Did it seem like it took forever for the
20 police to come or did they come pretty quickly?

21 **A** They came pretty quickly.

22 **Q** Okay. Did you guys attack the defendant?

23 **A** No. We did not. I attacked after I got stabbed
24 in the face.

25 **Q** Okay. Yeah, why did you get in a fight anyway?

1 **A** He -- when he came out of the car, I guess I was
2 the first one that he could approach and then I, like I
3 said, he just lunged at me. I got stabbed. I realized that
4 I got -- I didn't realize that I got stabbed. I felt that I
5 got hit real hard, so then I went back and attacked him.

6 **Q** Okay. Now, when you say you went back and
7 attacked him, I mean, had you walked away and then you went
8 back, what happened?

9 **A** After I got hit, I spun to the ground, turned
10 around and as I spun around completely I went towards him.

11 **Q** How far apart were you when you went?

12 **A** Probably about five feet, six feet.

13 **Q** Okay. And what happened after that?

14 **A** Well, after he stabbed me I went ahead, spun
15 around, went after him. As soon as he stabbed me, he went
16 after Frank, and went to go stab him, I guess, as well. By
17 that time, I grabbed him by the neck. I started hitting
18 him, but then while I am hitting him I felt faint. I didn't
19 know that I was stabbed. I just felt faint, so I walked
20 away a little bit to catch my composure. Then I turn
21 around, I see him wrestling with Will. And while he's
22 wrestling with Will, Will is on the ground. He went off
23 someplace I don't recognize because I went towards Will, and
24 that's as much as I remember.

25 **Q** Okay. Now, why did you -- after he attacked you

1 the first time, why didn't you just walk away?

2 A Just reaction of being hit, just defending myself.

3 Q And then what happened with your friends?

4 A He was going crazy with the knife.

5 Q What do you mean he was going crazy with the
6 knife?

7 A He stabbed me and then after he stabbed me he just
8 went after the other people that we was with. I figured
9 that the confrontation was between him and Will, but I was
10 the first one that he could approach being that I am in
11 Will's group. So I guess I was the first person to get
12 stabbed and then --

13 Q Can you tell the jury did you see a knife?

14 A No, I did not.

15 Q Then why do you think -- what makes you tell the
16 jury you got stabbed?

17 A All the blood, the slices in my face, my arms, my
18 chest.

19 Q Could he have just hit you really hard?

20 A Not to cause blood like that.

21 Q Okay. Now, was the fight where it was the
22 defendant with the four of you, or was it a one-on-one
23 situation or what happened in that regard?

24 A When I got stabbed, then, like I said, it was like
25 he was going after each one of us one by one. Okay, I took

1 care of him. Let me go to the next guy. Took care of him,
2 let me go to the next guy, type of thing. It wasn't like we
3 ever rushed him at one time and everybody was hitting him at
4 one time. It never happened like that. He went ahead,
5 stabbed me. Got rid of me. Went to the next person, and
6 stabbed him. And so on.

7 **Q** Now, can you tell the jury what started all of
8 this? Do you have any idea?

9 **A** I have no clue. I was already by my car by the
10 time they were coming out so I don't know what happened
11 inside the club or even outside coming through the doors of
12 the club. I didn't know. I was by my car already.

13 **Q** Okay.

14 **MS. LASKOFF:** If I may have a moment?

15 **THE COURT:** Before cross-examination, counsel,
16 could you please approach?

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

18 **THE COURT:** I have noticed that the individuals
19 that you identified as the victim's family and your
20 victim advocate have come in the door repeatedly.

21 **MS. LASKOFF:** They are going to do it again,
22 because I told them there was a, one picture -- I am
23 sorry.

24 **THE COURT:** The gentleman I think, two or three
25 times left. The females, four or five times, and your

1 victim advocate a couple of times as well. If they
2 want to distract the jury during your presentation,
3 that is one thing. I am not going to permit it. You
4 need to instruct your victim advocate that people need
5 to come and sit and be quiet.

6 **MS. VICKERS:** We object to the loud noises. There
7 is loud speaking coming from the victim's family as
8 well that I and defense counsel can hear.

9 **THE COURT:** I did hear the gentleman's voice. I
10 could not hear what he said. I looked at him and he
11 apologized and quit and I haven't heard it since. But
12 there's not going to be any talking in the courtroom.
13 They can do it outside, outside the presence of the
14 jury.

15 **MS. LASKOFF:** I saw Ms. Washington was in here
16 during some of the testimony.

17 **THE COURT:** I don't know who that is.

18 **MS. LASKOFF:** She's listed as a defense witness.

19 **THE COURT:** Well, you have invoked the rule so you
20 need to make sure your witnesses are not here.

21 **MS. LASKOFF:** Do you want me to address it with
22 them?

23 **THE COURT:** Yeah. Perhaps your co-counsel could
24 do that.

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

1

CROSS-EXAMINATION2 **BY MS. CHIEN:**3 **Q** Mr. Blanco, on October 24th, you and your friend
4 had gone to a Magic game, is that correct?5 **A** Yes.6 **Q** And at the Magic game, did you have drinks?7 **A** Yes.8 **Q** How many?9 **A** One.10 **Q** You, yourself, had one drink?11 **A** Yes.12 **Q** What was it?13 **A** I am not sure.14 **MS. LASKOFF:** Your Honor, I am going to object.
15 This is beyond the scope of my direct.16 **THE COURT:** Overruled.17 **BY MS. CHIEN:**18 **Q** What drink did you have?19 **A** I am not sure. It was bought for me.20 **Q** And you were with Francisco Gotay, Anthony
21 Riollano and William Troy at the Magic game as well, is that
22 correct?23 **A** Yes.24 **Q** And were they also drinking?25 **A** Yes.

1 Q And how many drinks did your other three friends
2 have?

3 A One apiece.

4 Q When you were at Thee Dollhouse, you, yourself,
5 had three to four drinks, is that correct?

6 A Yes.

7 Q And when you were also inside Thee Dollhouse, you
8 really didn't see any altercation between Mr. Dobbs or
9 William Troy, is that correct?

10 A Yes.

11 Q And let's talk about the fight. You don't know
12 how the fight started?

13 A No, I do not.

14 Q And what you are saying is that for no reason,
15 Mr. Dobbs punched you; is that correct.

16 A Resay that question again.

17 Q So is it your testimony that -- well, you were the
18 first one hit, and you don't even know why?

19 A Exactly.

20 Q Isn't it true you were the first one who threw the
21 first punch at Mr. Dobbs and you approached him?

22 A No, I did not.

23 Q During the fight, you, yourself, had punched
24 Mr. Dobbs, is that correct?

25 A During the fight, yes.

1 Q Okay. And you had punched him in the head, is
2 that correct?

3 A Yes.

4 Q You also saw -- at any given point in time, you
5 have also seen at least one of your friends punching
6 Mr. Dobbs as well, is that true?

7 A Yes.

8 Q And it is also your testimony that you never saw a
9 knife?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Isn't it also true that you, about a week later,
12 you returned to Thee Dollhouse?

13 A Yes.

14 MS. LASKOFF: I am going to object again. Beyond
15 the scope, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: Approach, please.

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

18 MS. CHIEN: This goes to the consciousness of
19 guilt. He went back -- we intend to elicit from the
20 testimony that he returned back to Thee Dollhouse. He
21 spoke with one of the managers. He apologized for what
22 happened, and he also told that manager that Will was
23 running his mouth that night. And that would be -- it
24 is the reverse. When the State uses it, it is
25 consciousness of guilt. This is a reverse for that

1 witness.

2 **THE COURT:** Okay. And her objection was beyond
3 the scope.

4 **MS. LASKOFF:** I don't think it is relevant either.
5 It is not consciousness of guilt. It is not the proper
6 predicate, number one. Number two, they have to put
7 eye witness testimony on to say that. So --

8 **MS. CHIEN:** Well, we can bring him in to say that.

9 **MS. VICKERS:** We'd just ask that he not be
10 released under his subpoena until we can recall him.

11 **THE COURT:** Okay. I will sustain the beyond the
12 scope objection.

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

14 **BY MS. CHIEN:**

15 **Q** Mr. Blanco, you stated on direct that you have had
16 about three to four felonies, is that correct?

17 **A** Yes.

18 **Q** Would it be more like six felonies?

19 **A** I don't know. You would have to check my rap
20 sheet.

21 **Q** Okay. Would it help you to remember if you were
22 to take a look at some paperwork that you may have?

23 **MS. LASKOFF:** I am going to object at this point,
24 Your Honor, based on the information that I have.

25 **THE COURT:** Could you approach, please?

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

2 **MS. CHIEN:** These are the J&S's. I see six. One
3 of three, two of three, one of two, two F3's. I am not
4 going off of the web site.

5 **MS. LASKOFF:** There's four separate cases, Your
6 Honor.

7 **MS. CHIEN:** Right, but some of them have two
8 felonies on them.

9 **THE COURT:** I am counting five. That's a
10 misdemeanor, possession of paraphernalia is a
11 misdemeanor. So it is one two, three, four, five.

12 **MS. CHIEN:** There's a --

13 **THE COURT:** This is actually Troy Williams.

14 **MS. CHIEN:** I'm sorry.

15 **MS. LASKOFF:** I have four cases. Six felonies
16 with four cases. Six and four cases. Six convictions
17 and four cases.

18 **MS. CHIEN:** Six felonies.

19 **THE COURT:** And your objection is what?

20 **MS. LASKOFF:** It is just four cases.

21 **THE COURT:** He said four convictions. Overruled.

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

23 **BY MS. CHIEN:**

24 **Q** Mr. Blanco, isn't it true you have had six felony
25 convictions?

1 **A** Like I said, I haven't seen my rap sheet.

2 **Q** Okay.

3 **MS. CHIEN:** Can I approach, Your Honor, and show
4 him?

5 **THE COURT:** Yes.

6 **THE WITNESS:** According to what you have there,
7 yes.

8 **BY MS. CHIEN:**

9 **Q** Do you not remember them?

10 **A** No, I do not.

11 **Q** Isn't it true you had two felonies --

12 **MS. LASKOFF:** I am going to object, Your Honor.
13 He has answered the questions.

14 **MS. CHIEN:** He was also not exactly forthcoming
15 about that and opened the door.

16 **THE COURT:** Counsel, approach, please.

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

18 **THE COURT:** I do not permit speaking objections.
19 You are permitted to ask two questions and then he has
20 indicated six now. Do you have some reason for
21 inquiring further?

22 **MS. CHIEN:** No further, no, Your Honor.

23 **THE COURT:** Then the objection will be sustained.

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

25

1 **BY MS. CHIEN:**

2 **Q** Mr. Blanco, you are currently on probation, is
3 that correct?

4 **A** Yes.

5 **Q** Okay.

6 **MS. CHIEN:** May I have a moment, Your Honor?

7 **THE COURT:** You may.

8 **MS. CHIEN:** I have no other questions.

9 **THE COURT:** Any redirect?

10 **MS. LASKOFF:** No, Your Honor.

11 **THE COURT:** Mr. Blanco, you are free to go at this
12 time, but you do remain under subpoena with regard to
13 this trial.

14 Call your next witness.

15 **MS. LASKOFF:** Francisco Gotay.

16 Thereupon,

17 **FRANSISCO GOTAY**

18 was called as a witness and, having first been duly sworn,
19 testified as follows:

20 **THE COURT:** You may inquire.

21 **BY MS. LASKOFF:**

22 **Q** Sir, can you state your name for the record and
23 introduce yourself to the jury?

24 **A** My name is Francisco Gotay.

25 **Q** And Mr. Gotay, are you friends with William Troy?