1	REPORTER'S RECORD		
2	Volume 15 of 22 Volumes		
3	Trial Court Cause No. 12-003034-CV		
4	Court of Appeals No. 10-15-00066-CV		
5			
6 7	WILLIAM PAUL CRISP, JR. : IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF AND J. NICOLE CRISP, : INDIVIDUALLY AND AS : REPRESENTATIVES OF THE :		
8	ESTATE OF LAUREN BAILEY : CRISP :		
9 10	AND :		
11	DENISE WHITAKER, : BRAZOS COUNTY, T E X A S INDIVIDUALLY AND AS :		
12	REPRESENTATIVE OF THE : ESTATE OF DENTON JAMES : WARD :		
13	V. :		
14 15	: LITTLE SYKNECK, INC., : AND THE McDONALD'S : CORPORATION : 361ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT		
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17			
18	CLOSING ARGUMENTS and VERDICT		
19			
20			
21	On the 30th day of July, 2014, the following		
22	proceedings came on to be heard in the above- entitled and numbered cause before the Honorable Steve Smith, Judge presiding, held in Bryan, Brazos County, Texas.		
23			
24	Proceedings reported by computerized stenotype machine.		
25	beenotype machine.		

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## PROCEEDINGS 1 July 30, 2014 2 3 (Jury seated.) 4 THE COURT: Be seated, please. Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. 5 6 Each of you should have a copy of the Court's 7 instructions to follow. 8 Along with as I read it to you. 9 First of all, does the Defense rest. 10 MR. ROSENBERG: Yes, Your Honor. THE COURT: And Plaintiff rests and 11 closes? 12 MR. HAMILTON: Yes, Your Honor. 13 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. 14 CHARGE OF THE COURT 15 16 Members of the Jury: This case is 17 submitted to you by asking questions about the 18 facts, which you must decide from the evidence you 19 heard in this trial. You are the sole judges of the 20 credibility of the witnesses and the weight to be given their testimony, but in matters of law you 21 22 must be governed by the instructions in this Charge. 23 In discharging your responsibility on this jury, you 24 will observe all of the instructions that have been previously given you. I shall now give you 25

additional instructions that you should carefully and strictly follow during your deliberations.

Do not let bias, prejudice or sympathy play any part in your deliberations.

In arriving at your answers, consider only the evidence introduced here under oath and such exhibits, if any, as have been introduced for your consideration under the rulings of the Court, that is, the evidence seen and heard in this courtroom, together with the law as given you by the Court. In your deliberations, you will not consider or discuss anything that is not presented by the evidence in this case.

Since every answer that is required by these instruction is important, no juror should state or consider an answer is not important.

You must not decide who you think should win, and then try to answer the questions accordingly. Simply answer the questions, and do not discuss or concern yourselves with the effects of your answers. That is a matter for the Court exclusively.

You will not decide questions by lot or drawing straws, or by you any other method of chance. Do not return a quotient verdict. A

quotient verdict means that the jurors agree to abide by the results reached by adding together each juror's figures and dividing by the number of jurors.

To get an average. Do not do any trading on your answers; that is one juror should not agree to answer a certain question one way if others will agree to answer another question another way.

You may render your verdict upon the vote of ten or more members of the jury. The same ten or more of you must agree upon all of the answers made and to the entire verdict. You will not, therefore, enter into an agreement to be bound by a majority or any other vote of less than ten jurors. If the verdict and all of the answers therein are reached by unanimous agreement, the presiding juror shall sign the verdict for the entire jury. If any juror disagrees as to any answer made by the verdict, those jurors who agree to all findings shall each sign the verdict.

These instructions are given you because your conduct is subject to review the same as that of the witnesses, parties, attorneys, and the Judge. If it should be found that you

disregarded any of these instructions, it will be jury misconduct and it may require another trial by another jury; then all of our time will have wasted.

The presiding juror or any other juror who observes a violation of the Court's instructions shall immediately warn the one who is violating the same and caution the juror not to do so again.

Answer "yes" or "no" to all questions unless otherwise instructed. A "yes" answer must be based upon a preponderance of the evidence unless otherwise instructed. If you do not find that a preponderance of the evidence supports a "yes" answer, then answer "no." If the question directs you to give an answer other than "yes" or "no," you must still base your answer on a preponderance of the evidence, unless otherwise instructed.

When the words are used in this
Charge in a sense that varies from commonly
understood meaning, you are given a proper legal
definition, which you are bound to accept in place
of any other meaning. The Court now gives you
certain definitions of terms used in this Charge, by
which you will be governed in arriving at your

- 1 answer to the questions submitted to you.
- 2 | Additional definitions and instruction may appear
- 3 with specific questions, and should be read before
- 4 answering the questions.
- 5 Preponderance of the evidence. The
- 6 | term preponderance of the evidence means the greater
- 7 | weight and degree of credible evidence, including
- 8 | testimony, introduced before you and admitted in
- 9 this case.
- 10 You are instructed that a fact may
- 11 be established by direct evidence or by
- 12 circumstantial evidence, or by both. A fact is
- 13 established by direct evidence when proved by
- documentary evidence or by witnesses who saw the act
- done or heard the words spoken. A fact is
- 16 established by circumstantial evidence when it may
- 17 | be fairly and reasonably inferred from other facts
- 18 proved.
- Now, bearing in mind the foregoing
- 20 instructions and definitions, you will answer the
- 21 questions set forth herein.
- When you go into the jury room to
- 23 answer questions, you will select your own presiding
- 24 | juror and then you will deliberate upon your answers
- 25 to the questions asked.

The presiding juror has these duties: preside over your deliberations, meaning manage the discussions, and see that you follow these instructions; give written requests or comments to the bailiff which you desire to have delivered to the Judge; vote on the questions; write down the answers you agree on; get the signatures for the verdict certificate; notify the bailiff that you have reached a verdict.

You may answer the questions on a vote of ten jurors. This means the same ten jurors must agree on every answer in the instructions.

This means you may not have one group of ten jurors agree on one answer and a different group of ten jurors agree on another answer. If ten jurors agree on every answer, those ten jurors sign the verdict. If 11 jurors agree on every answer, those 11 jurors will sign the verdict. If all 12 of you agree on every answer, you are unanimous and only the presiding juror will sign the verdict.

After you have retired to consider your verdict, no one has any authority to communicate with you except the bailiff of this court. You should not discuss the case with anyone, not even other members of the jury, unless all are

present and assembled in the jury room. Should anyone to talk to you about the case before the verdict is returned, whether at the courthouse, at your home, or elsewhere, please inform the Judge of this fact.

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You have been permitted to take notes during the testimony in this case. In the event any of you took notes, you may rely on your notes during deliberations. However, you may not share your notes with the other jurors and you should not permit the other jurors to share their notes with you. You may, however, discuss the contents of your notes with the other jurors. shall not use your notes as authority to persuade your fellow jurors. In your deliberations, give no more and no less weight to the views of a fellow juror because that juror did or did not take notes. Your notes are not official transcripts. They are personal memory aides, just like notes of the Judge and the notes of the lawyers. Notes are valuable as a stimulant to your memory. On the other hand, you might make an error in observing or might make a mistake in recording what you have seen or heard. Therefore, you are not to use your notes as authority to persuade fellow jurors of what the

evidence was during the trial.

During your deliberations, you must communicate with or provide any information to anyone by any means about this case. You may not use any electronic device or media, such as a telephone, cell phone, smart phone, iPhone, Blackberry, or computer, the Internet, any Internet service, or any text or instant messaging service; or any Internet chat room, blog, or website such as Facebook, My Space, LinkedIn, YouTube or Twitter, to communicate to anyone any information about this case or to conduct any research about this case until I accept your verdict.

When you have answered all of the questions which you are required to answer under the instructions of the Judge, and your presiding juror has placed your answers in the spaces provided and signed the verdict as presiding juror or obtained the signatures, you will advise the bailiff at the door of the jury room that you have reached a verdict, and then you will return into court with your verdict.

Additional definitions and admonitory instructions: McDonald's means
McDonald's Restaurants of Texas, Inc.; McDonald's

1 USA, LLC and The McDonald's Corporation. Ouestion No. 1: Did the 2 3 negligence, if any, of those named below proximately cause the death of Denton James Ward? 4 With respect to condition of the 5 6 premises, McDonald's was negligent if: 7 1. The condition posed an unreasonable risk of harm; and. 8 9 2. McDonald's knew or reasonably 10 should have known of the danger; and. 11 McDonald's failed to exercise 12 ordinary care to protect Denton James Ward from the 13 danger, by both failing to adequately warn Denton James Ward of the condition and failing to make the 14 15 condition reasonably safe. 16 "Ordinary care," when used with 17 respect to the conduct of McDonald's as an owner or 18 occupier of the premises, means that degree of care that would be used by an owner or occupier of 19 20 ordinary prudence under the same or similar 21 circumstances. 22 "Negligence," when used with 23 respect to the conduct of Samantha Bean, Tanner 24 Bryce, Marcus Jamal Jones, and John Does, means failure to use ordinary care, that is, failing to do 25

that which a person of ordinary prudence would have

done under the same or similar circumstances or

doing that which a person of ordinary prudence would

4 not have done under the same or similar

5 circumstances.

"Negligence," when used with respect to the conduct of Hurricane Harry's, means failure to use ordinary care, that is, failing to do that which an establishment of ordinary prudence would have done under the same or similar circumstances or doing that which an establishment of ordinary prudence would not have done under the same or similar circumstances.

"Ordinary care," when used with respect to the conduct of Samantha Bean, Tanner Bryce Giesen, Marcus Jamal Jones, and John Does means that degree of care that would be used by a person of ordinary prudence in the same or similar circumstances.

"Ordinary care," when used with respect to the conduct of Hurricane Harry's means that degree of care that would be used by an establishment of ordinary prudence under the same or similar circumstances.

If Samantha Bean was confronted by

an "emergency" arising suddenly and unexpectedly,
which was not proximately caused by any negligence
on her part and which, to a reasonable person,
requires immediate action without time for
deliberation, her conduct in such an emergency is
not negligence or failure to use ordinary care, if,
after such emergency arises, she acts as a person of
ordinary prudence would have acted under the same or
similar circumstances.

"Proximate cause," means a cause that was a substantial factor in bringing about an event, and without which cause such event would not have occurred. In order to be a proximate cause, the act or omission complained of must be of such that a person using ordinary care would have foreseen that the event, or some similar event, might reasonably result therefrom. There may be more than one proximate cause of an event.

Answer "yes" or "no" for each of the following listed entities and individuals.

If you answered "yes" to Question
No. 1 for more than one of those named below, then
answer the following Question. Otherwise, do not
answer the following Question.

Question No. 2: Assign percentages

1 of responsibility only to those you found caused or contributed to the death of Denton James Ward. 2 3 percentages you find must total 100 percent. 4 percentages must be expressed in whole numbers. percentage of responsibility attributable to anyone 5 6 is not necessarily measured by the number of acts or 7 omissions found. The percentage attributable to 8 anyone need not to be the same attributed to that 9 one in answering another question. 10 For each person you found caused or contributed to cause the death of Denton James Ward, 11 12 find the percentage of responsibility attributable 13 to each. 14 You are given names to consider in that question. 15 16 Ouestion No. 3: Did the 17 negligence, if any, of those named below proximately 18 cause the death of Lauren Bailey Crisp? 19 With respect to the condition of 20 the premises, McDonald's was negligent if: With respect to condition of the 21 22 premises, McDonald's was negligent if: 23 1. The condition posed an 24 unreasonable risk of harm; and. McDonald's knew or reasonably 25 2.

should have known of the danger; and.

3. McDonald's failed to exercise ordinary care to protect Lauren Bailey Crisp from the danger, by both failing to adequately warn Lauren Bailey Crisp of the condition and failing to make the condition reasonably safe.

"Ordinary care," when used with respect to the conduct of McDonald's as an owner or occupier of the premises, means that degree of care that would be used by an owner or occupier of ordinary prudence under the same or similar circumstances.

"Negligence," when used with respect to the conduct of Samantha Bean, Tanner Bryce Giesen, Marcus Jamal Jones, Lauren Bailey Crisp, and John Does, means failure to use ordinary care, that is, failing to do that which a person of ordinary prudence would have done under the same or similar circumstances or doing that which a person of ordinary prudence would not have done under the same or similar circumstances.

"Negligence," when used with
respect to the conduct of Hurricane Harry's, means
failure to use ordinary care, that is, failing to do
that which an establishment of ordinary prudence

would have done under the same or similar circumstances or doing that which an establishment of ordinary prudence would not have done under the same or similar circumstances.

"Ordinary care," when used with respect to the conduct of Samantha Bean, Tanner Bryce Giesen, Marcus Jamal Jones, Lauren Bailey Crisp and John Does means that degree of care that would be used by a person of ordinary prudence in the same or similar circumstances.

"Ordinary care," when used with respect to the conduct of Hurricane Harry's means that degree of care that would be used by an establishment of ordinary prudence under the same or similar circumstances.

If Samantha Bean and Lauren Bailey
Crisp were confronted by an "emergency" arising
suddenly and unexpectedly, which was not proximately
caused by any negligence on her part and which, to a
reasonable person, requires immediate action without
time for deliberation, her conduct in such an
emergency is not negligence or failure to use
ordinary care, if, after such emergency arises, she
acts as a person of ordinary prudence would have
acted under the same or similar circumstances.

"Proximate cause," means a cause that was a substantial factor in bringing about an event, and without which cause such event would not have occurred. In order to be a proximate cause, the act or omission complained of must be of such that a person using ordinary care would have foreseen that the event, or some similar event, might reasonably result therefrom. There may be more than one proximate cause of an event.

Answer "yes" or "no" for each of the following listed entities and individuals.

If you answered "yes" to Question

No. 3 for more than one of those named below, then

answer the following Question. Otherwise, do not

answer the following Question.

Question No. 4: Assign percentages of responsibility only to those you found caused or contributed to the death of Lauren Bailey Crisp.

The percentages you find must total 100 percent.

The percentages must be expressed in whole numbers.

The percentage of responsibility attributable to anyone is not necessarily measured by the number of acts or omissions found. The percentage attributable to anyone need not to be the same attributed to that one in answering another

1 question.

2.0

For each person you found caused or contributed to cause the death of Denton James
Ward -- that's incorrect, isn't it? That should be Lauren Bailey Crisp.

For each person you found caused or contributed to cause the death of Lauren Bailey
Crisp, find the percentage of responsibility
attributable to each.

You're given 1 through 7 for you to use in that question.

Answer the following question if you answered "yes" to Question No. 1 for McDonald's. Otherwise, do not answer the following question.

Question No. 5: What sum of money, if paid now in cash, would fairly and reasonably compensate Denise Whitaker for her damages, if any, resulting from the death of Denton James Ward?

Consider the elements of damages
listed below and none other. Consider each element
separately. Do not award any sum of money on any
element if you have otherwise, under some other
element, awarded a sum of money for that same loss.
That is, do not compensate twice for the same loss,
if any. Do not include interest on my amount of

1 damages you find.

You are instructed that any monetary recovery is not subject to federal or state income taxes.

Answer separately in dollars and cents for damages, if any. In answering this question, do not consider any answer to any other question.

1. Loss of companionship and society. "Loss of companionship and society" means the loss of the positive benefits flowing from the love, comfort, companionship, and society that Denise Whitaker, in reasonable probability, would have received from Denton James Ward had he lived.

You're asked to consider loss of companionship and society sustained in the past and that a reasonable probability might be sustained in the future by Ms. Whitaker.

2. Mental anguish. "Mental anguish" means the emotional pain, torment, and suffering experienced by Denise Whitaker because of the death of Denton James Ward.

You are asked to consider mental anguish sustained in the past by Ms. Whitaker and to consider mental anguish that, in reasonable

1 probability, would be sustained in the future by Ms. Whitaker. 2. 3 In determining damages for elements 4 1 and 2, you may consider the relationship between Denton James Ward and his mother, their living 5 6 arrangements, any extended absences from one 7 another, the harmony of their family relations, and their common interests and activities. 8 Answer the following question is 9 you answered "yes" to Question No. 1 for McDonald's. 10 Otherwise, do not answer the following Question. 11 12 Question No. 6: What sum of money 13 would have fairly and reasonably compensated Denton James Ward for: 14 Pain and mental anguish. 15 1. 16 and mental anguish" means the conscious physical 17 pain and emotional pain, torment, and suffering 18 experienced by Denton James Ward before his death as 19 a result of the occurrence in question. 20 And you are to answer in dollars and cents for any damages. 21 22 Answer the following question if 23 you answered "yes" to Question No. 3 for McDonald's. 24 Otherwise, do not answer the following Question.

Question No. 7: What sum of money,

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if paid now in cash, would fairly and reasonably
compensate William Paul Crisp, Jr. And J. Nicole
Crisp for their damages, if any, resulting from the
death of Lauren Bailey Crisp?

Consider the elements of damages listed below and none other. Consider each element separately. Do not award any sum of money on any element if you have otherwise, under some other element, awarded a sum of money for that same loss. That is, do not compensate twice for the same loss, if any. Do not include interest on my amount of damages you find.

You are instructed that any monetary recovery is not subject to federal or state income taxes.

Answer separately in dollars and cents for damages, if any. Do not reduce the amounts, if any, in your answers because of the negligence, if any, of Lauren Bailey Crisp. Any recovery will be determined by the Court when it applies the law to your answers at the time of judgment.

1. Loss of companionship and
society. "Loss of companionship and society" means
the loss of the positive benefits flowing from the

love, comfort, companionship, and society that
William Paul Crisp, Jr. and J. Nicole Crisp, in
reasonable probability, would have received from
Lauren Bailey Crisp had she lived.

And you're given spots to consider loss of companionship and society sustained in the past by those individuals and loss of companionship and society that in reasonable probability would be sustained in the future.

2. Mental anguish. "Mental anguish" means the emotional pain, torment -- pardon me -- emotional pain, torment, and suffering experienced by William Paul Crisp, Jr. and J. Nicole Crisp because of the death of Lauren Bailey Crisp.

And you're asked as to mental anguish sustained in the past by either of those two individuals and mental anguish that, in reasonable probability, would be sustained in the future by those individuals.

In determining damages for elements 1 and 2, you may consider the relationship between Lauren Bailey Crisp and her parents, their living arrangements, any extended absences from one another, the harmony of their relations, and their common interests and activities.

1	Attached to the instructions is a
2	verdict certificate, which is signed by the
3	presiding juror if the verdict is unanimous. If the
4	verdict is a verdict of 11 or 10 people, each of
5	those 11 or 10 people signs on the next page and
6	I've had this problem before but if the verdict
7	is less than unanimous and the presiding juror is
8	one of those 10 or 11 people, the presiding juror
9	signs with the people, not as the presiding juror.
LO	Is everybody clear on that?
L1	Counsel, one thing I did not do is
L2	I did not ask the jury if they are prepared to stay
L3	for two hours. And let me ask before we start:
L <b>4</b>	Does everybody feel comfortable staying in place for
L5	two hours without taking a bathroom break? Anybody
L6	need to?
L7	All right. If it happens, let me
L8	know.
L9	The Plaintiff has the burden of
20	proof in this case. They are entitled to begin
21	final arguments. Then the Defense will make their
22	final arguments and the Plaintiff has an opportunity
23	to finally close.
24	CLOSING ARGUMENTS BY MR. LANGDON
5	MR I.ANGDON: Ladies and gentlemen

of the jury. May it please the Court: This is always the hard part of a trial. This is the last time anybody gets to speak on behalf of Bailey Crisp and Denton Ward, on behalf of these families.

I want to thank you for your service for the last week and a half and the attention that you paid in this case. You know, without people willing to do that our system doesn't work. And the families want to thank you for that.

It's been an honor to represent these two families. This is a very trying time for them. It has been for the last several years.

You know, corporations make decisions. And they take actions and they have to be responsible in our society for the actions and the decisions they make. And there are two things I don't want to hear from the Defense lawyers for these corporations. One, I'm sorry. For over two years nobody apologized to these families, I don't want it to happen today.

Another thing is sympathy.

Sympathy cheapens justice. And you're not here,
ladies and gentlemen, for sympathy. These families
are here for justice. That's what they're here for.

You know, most things we do in

life, we vote. Doesn't really matter very much. I
know, one of a thousand, one of a million. But your
vote here today is going to count. Your vote here
today will determine what these two young people's
lives are worth to their families.

Four college students going to a concert. Stopped for food. Going to the restroom at McDonald's. That was a choice they made. And that choice cost two of them their lives.

We told you in opening that McDonald's had choices to make when they decided back in their offices in Illinois, when they decided that northern Delaware and College Station was going to be their test market for their 12:00 to 4:00 menu.

Folks, these corporate executives, their marketers, their bean counters back in their home office, they knew the type of customers that they were going to have from 12:00 to 4:00 in the morning. And it wasn't 60-year-old people like me. They knew that they were going to have young people. They knew some of them would be drinking.

Now, the Defendants, McDonald's and its executives, they had choices to make. They could have decided to put on security during these

Protected their customers. But they chose to save money and not to have security, leaving people in College Station no more than unprotected human quinea pigs. You saw yesterday that cost wasn't an issue when it came to McDonald's protecting themselves here in the Court. McDonald's hired five experts and they brought one in. charged \$110,000 for six months. She's paid bonuses by how well she testifies, not how good an engineer she is.

How many security officers and security guards at \$45 an hour would that \$110,000 pay for, plus all these other experts pay for? How many years could we do that for?

So how did McDonald's with 16 cameras, fifty gang fights at this location, not know about this? That's another choice McDonald's made at this time that you heard about. What they did, they said, we're going to stop our central security reporting system. We'll have one guy, one guy cover half of the United States for security reporting.

How is one person going to cover the tens of thousands of stores in this area? What does that tell us about McDonald's? Are they

- interested in security or are they interested in the
  size of their bank account?
- 3 Look at the University store.
- 4 Sixteen cameras, 16 cameras pointed at their assets.
- 5 Not one pointed to the safety of their customers in
- 6 the parking lots. Not one. They're marketers.
- 7 Advertisers. They're bean counters.

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here.

- They all knew who they were
  targeting there. They knew who was coming to the
  store from 12:00 to 4:00. The only thing they
  didn't know, they didn't know what day the fights
  would happen. They didn't know the names of the
  victims. And they didn't know the extent of the
  injuries. We know all of those today as we sit
  - In Texas and everywhere else in the United States, one of the great things we have is this courtroom. You walk through those doors, everybody is the same whether you're an individual or a corporation. And you have the same responsibility for your actions or lack of your actions.
- 23 Mr. Hamilton will talk to you about 24 the law as His Honor has given it to you and how it 25 applies in this case.

I want to ask one question: out of all of the McDonald's employees they've got, don't you think, don't you think that one should have sat on that stand and looked you folks in the eyes and said, "You know what, we're not responsible. We're not responsible for these two individuals. Kids just being kids." How about the executives that 

thought this idea up. Think about all the planning they had to do for this 12:00 to 4:00 to increase their sales. All those ideas. Don't you think one could have sat in that witness chair and looked you folks in the eyes and said it. It was not offered. Just one.

Now, I'll turn it over to Chris Hamilton. Thank you.

## CLOSING ARGUMENTS BY MR. HAMILTON

MR. HAMILTON: Thank you.

Thank you for the attention you paid during this case. Thank you. Your service is important. It's important. I think that you understand that. The way that you fulfill your service and complete your service in this case is through this Charge. This is how you make the ultimate statement that you want to make in this

1 case.

I would like to talk about. The critical thing here, what you'll hear from the lawyers is not the law. The only thing that is the law for you to consider in this case is what's right here. What's so important about this is that everyone who gets to speak up and tries to tell you to do something that is contrary to what is in this document right here, what they're asking you to do is to disregard the law. This is the law. This is what the Court wants you to apply and these are the questions that the Court is asking you to answer and the law that the State of Texas wants you to answer.

So what I'm going to do now is go through this and talk about some of the evidence in the case that will apply to the law. As a practical matter, you all have seen it on TV, one thing you need to do is select a presiding juror. There's a little reference to that on a few pages. I won't spend a bunch of time on it.

But the first thing you probably will want to do when you get in the room is pick a presiding juror. That's just going to kind of help move things along.

The other important point is, on that same page you see regarding the presiding juror, all of the questions that you answer here are going to be answered on a vote of ten jurors. The same ten jurors have to agree to everything. Only ten. None of these questions have to be unanimous. They may be, but it's not required. Because of that, one little suggestion I would make, sometimes there's a bunch of blanks here and sometimes there's one little blank, if you come to a question where you don't all agree, there's nothing that says you have to reach your answers to this in order to answer them all before you are done and sign it.

If there's a disagreement on one, you're always welcome to move on to the next one and come back to it. That's something that may make things a little easier.

The last thing, before I get to the questions that you're going to be asked, is the burden of proof, preponderance of the evidence.

This is very important. Mr. Langdon did this in the jury selection phase. He showed you two stacks of paper and moved one piece of paper to the other side. That's the greater weight of the evidence.

That's the law.

The reason this is so important and the reason we talked about it in voir dire, we asked if there was any one of you that had a problem that this is a case involving millions of dollars, tons of lawyers, if anybody had a problem with that burden of proof, you could have gotten yourself off the jury in this case.

And so if there's anybody that gets in the jury room that wants to make a higher burden of proof, please remind that juror that they took an oath to follow this law and this is the law that you're being provided.

As we go through these questions, that's always the burden of proof. When there's debate in the jury room always remember that the standard is only an extra piece of paper. That's it.

Let's go to Question One. I want to go through these on the ELMO. So, first question: Did the negligence, if any, of those named below proximately cause the death of Denton James Ward? With respect to the conditions of the premises, McDonald's was negligent if the condition posed an unreasonable risk of harm.

There's three parts. Let's go

1 right through it. Go to the first line of the Power 2 The condition posed an unreasonable risk of Point. 3 harm. Play this, please. 4 "Okay. So you aren't aware of any fights at the 801 University at 5 6 McDonald's prior to this incident where 7 kids got killed? "No? 8 9 "Am I correct? 10 "You're correct. 11 "You were aware of no fight? 12 "I was aware of no fights. 13 "Are you aware ever any incidents -prior to this incident where the kids 14 got killed, were you aware of any 15 16 incident where the police were called to 17 your store at 801 University McDonald's? 18 "No, sir. 19 "So prior to this incident where the 20 kids got killed after the fight, you weren't aware of a single incident where 21 22 the police had ever come out to the 801 23 University McDonald's? 24 "No, sir." Does anybody in this courtroom 25

1 believe that that testimony was true? What you have to ask yourself is, "Well, with all of the evidence 2 3 why would he give that testimony? The reason is 4 this: Because the question you're going to be asked is unreasonable risk of harm. All those incidents 5 establish unreasonable risk of harm. 6 7 So rather than admit that they just 8 did this. We know from Assistant Chief Couch --9 "I mean, you could have based -- I 10 would make an assessment based on call volume. If there was a lot of calls, it 11 12 would tend to suggest that there may be 13 a reason -- a terrible end result if we don't take control of that, you know --14 "Okay. 15 16 "-- just based on call volumes." 17 "Yeah, I would just equate it to 18 risk. 19 "Okay. 20 "If we're handling a lot of calls, the risk is high that we're going to 21 have a big problem. 22 23 "A big problem like what? Somebody 24 getting hurt or --"If we have a disturbance involving 25

1 lots of people and alcohol, then we need to get control of that, if we can. 2 3 "Okay. Because that's -- could 4 create an unreasonable risk of injury to people? 5 "Well, yeah. And the officers are 6 7 responding into it. The evidence is conclusive. 8 9 said they were going to call the police. They never 10 had this. This is unrefuted evidence from the 11 assistant police chief in College Station. 12 Unreasonable risk of injury, not just for the customers, he's worried about his 13 officers. This is not customers, those people had 14 guns. This unreasonable risk of injury. This is 15 16 conclusively answered without any responsive evidence from McDonald's at all. Nothing. 17 Unreasonable risk. 18 19 "Had you been to this McDonald's 20 before? "Yes, I have. 21 22 "Had you seen it this out of control before? 23 24 "Yes. "Tell me about that. 25

1	"I mean, any time we go I don't
2	go to that school but any time I've
3	been out there, we go to the McDonald's
4	it's always over capacity in there with
5	lots of people it's just not
6	controlled.
7	"Tell me about that. I mean, have
8	you seen fights there before?
9	"Yes.
10	"Tell me about that.
11	"I've seen fights the semester
12	that I was there, I saw at least three
13	fights up there.
14	"Before this incident?
15	"Yes, before this incident.
16	"In the one semester before this
17	incident?
18	"Yes. Because I was there a lot
19	that semester. I seen, like I said,
20	three fights. The nobody nobody was
21	controlling the fights. Nobody
22	breaks the people that break up the
23	fights actually are like the students
24	around there. It's not anybody that has
25	any authority there like people that

1 work there or a police office because they're -- there wasn't any there -- any 2 3 time that I've been there." It was not reasonable. That's the 4 standard. 5 6 Officer Yargo, we don't need to go 7 through this again. He testified this is the scene. 8 We've seen it multiple times before. We quite often get called for large fights in that parking lot. 9 10 The evidence here on this element is just completely conclusive. In this case there's 11 12 no debate that's been presented, no contrary evidence. If they had it, they would have brought 13 it to you. They don't have it. 14 Next. McDonald's knew or 15 16 reasonably should have known of the danger -- you 17 notice I highlighted the other part. What they denied was, "Oh, we didn't know. We didn't know. 18 We didn't know." 19 20 Well, with the Judge's instruction, what you see here, that's not a defense. 21 22 should have known, you're on the hook. You can't 23 say, "No, we're not quilty." If you should have 24 known, you're responsible. That makes sense doesn't it? 25

"Okay. And when you said Mr. Butler indicated that he may have some way to predict certain events, talk to me about that. Explain to me what you recall, if anything.

"I remember him saying that there may be some hesitancy with corporate providing security full-time and -- as if it was a revenue issue. And I said, I understand that. He said, however, I might be able to -- I have sources. I may be able to find out when these events are going to occur in town. And if we know that an event is occurring, then I may know that they're going to end up at my restaurant.

"I remember thinking it was perhaps he knew of some DJ website that he followed perhaps."

So we don't have to prove they actually knew. The assistant chief of police said the general manager of the store admitted to him that he can predict when these events would occur.

Again, that's conclusive evidence on this particular issue.

Here's the should have known. know that they were doing a test market from 12:00 to 4:00 a.m. for the after-midnight menu. those executives in Illinois are looking at that field data. They didn't spin that thing out never having known how many transactions. You heard Carlos Butler's testimony, how many transactions in an hour, two to 300 transactions. And the assistant chief is 

And the assistant chief is testifying that a bunch of those people in the parking lot aren't even going inside the store. 300 transactions, you don't think those people in Illinois know the level of activity that was going on at this particular store.

And then what do they do? Should have known. They've got a guy covering territory that big across the United States who says he didn't even know Carlos' face, said I thought he was Caucasian. That's what he testified. No idea. He's got no security incident reporting system. He's going off his memory when he comes and says in his deposition under oath, "I didn't know about anything." Going off his memory.

Now, about what they knew. It's what they didn't want to know that's what's going

on. They didn't want to know. They want to know how many transactions are there, they want to know how successful it is, but they don't want to know -- they had a security incident reporting system but they got rid of it, they canceled it. They didn't want to know.

What else did they know? They knew they had security from 2005 to 2008. They knew that. They knew they had security for the test market. They knew that. The answer here isn't reasonably subject to dispute, but what happens when you don't have a security incident reporting system? You have this. You have this guy saying, "Well, I didn't know anything about it. I didn't know anything about it."

That's the defense. "I didn't know anything about it." Well, you knew you didn't have a security incident reporting system. You know hundreds of transactions an hour. "I didn't know anything about it." They knew they didn't have a reporting system. That was a decision they made. We talked about decisions. That was a decision -- that wasn't a decision made by somebody facing a mob in a parking lot. That was a decision made by somebody sitting in an office with years to think

1 about it.

Next part. McDonald's failed to make the conditions reasonably safe. McDonald's failed to exercise ordinary care to protect Denton James Ward from the danger, both by failing to adequately warn of the conditions and failing to make the conditions reasonably safe.

"That's a fair summary of really -"Yeah, that's sort of what we spoke
about, is that the McDonald's was
creating a situation where we needed a
lot of resources. And it was problems
they didn't need and problems we didn't
want. So if they would have just hired
the security, they would have been able
to probably push the crowd away and
maintain the order without us having to
respond."

Again, this is felt like a broken record. This is unrefuted, undisputed evidence. It's consistent with what the assistant chief says, this works if they had the security, if they had pushed the crowd away, the police wouldn't have needed to respond.

They had an opportunity to call

1 experts. They said they called security, but they never showed up. They had an opportunity to call 2 3 any witness. They don't have any McDonald's 4 employees. Nobody showed up. This is unrefuted, undisputed evidence. 5 So when you're applying the 6 7 standard of one piece of paper versus another, you hear this evidence, you follow this law, they make 8 9 the choices for you. There's no other stack of 10 paper. 11 Here's what he had, Sosa had to 12 This is the current quy, the quy -- their 13 excuse, the one and only person you heard from. They didn't bring him, we subpoenaed him. 14 The only person you heard from, he says, "Well, then I didn't 15 16 know. I didn't know. I didn't know." 17 Well, this time he investigated it What did he say: 18 all. 19 "You recently conducted a security 20 review of this particular McDonald's on University Drive in College Station, 21 22 right? 23 "Yes. 24 "Are you going to hire security at that McDonald's on Friday and Saturday 25

1 night between 2:00 to 3:00 a.m. while school is in session? 2 3 "It's not my decision to hire. However, based on what I -- what I 4 observed, there's no need to hire a 5 6 security guard during that time period. 7 "Okay. I just want to be clear for 8 the record that after you reviewed the police call logs, police incident 9 10 reports and the depositions of the College Station police officers 11 12 regarding this McDonald's, that it was the decision of McDonald's that it is 13 14 not necessary to hire security guards on Friday and Saturday night or Saturday 15 16 and Sunday morning between 2:00 and 3:00 17 a.m.; is that correct? 18 "It was my recommendation that we do 19 not need to hire security guards at that 20 time. "Do you agree that on the evening in 21 22 question where Denton James Ward was 23 attacked outside the McDonald's, that 24 there was a crowd control problem in the 25 parking lot?

"No, I do not. 1 2 "You don't agree as the regional 3 security manager that having an off-duty 4 police officer present at your store could prevent large crowds of people 5 6 from regularly congregating in the 7 parking lot between 2:00 to 3:00 a.m. on 8 Saturday and Sunday morning? "I can't speak in an absolute on 9 10 whether or not it does or doesn't. 11 "Could it reduce the risk and 12 likelihood of that problem? 13 "I can't say yes or no to that. "What's the reason not to hire 14 security at this McDonald's between 2:00 15 16 to 3:00 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday 17 morning? 18 "There's no reoccurring pattern of violence at this store." 19 20 Y'all agree with that? That's what they're telling you: There's nothing we can do 21 22 about it. Beaten to death in our parking lot; 23 doesn't matter. How many times every weekend -- we 24 went through the incidents over and over and over again, 400 people in the parking lot. There's 25

nothing we can do about it. That's what they're telling you.

That guy is from McDonald's

Corporation. There's just nothing we can do. Enter

McDonald's parking lot at your own peril. There's

nothing we can do to protect the customers when

they're walking inside the store. Might work, might

not. Nothing we can do.

Failure to use ordinary care, I
won't replay this, but here's what ordinary care
says so we can move that -- owner or occupier of
ordinary prudence under the same or similar
circumstances. And Chief Couch said a handful a
restaurants all used security in that area. He said
they don't have problems with 24-hour restaurants.
They can't identify a single 24-hour restaurant
other than McDonald's that didn't use security.

Chief Couch says the other ones do it, they don't have a problem. That's the unrefuted evidence as to what ordinary care means.

The last part I want to cover briefly, but let's play this next clip before we do that. What we just talked about is the prior incident and their failure to have security, which is unrefuted evidence. That requires a "yes" answer

as to McDonald's on this question. I don't know if you caught this. This is critically important here too.

"So when Eddie Sosa and H. Steven
Smith interviewed Lindsay Ives, she
admitted that there was an incident
prior to 2:00 a.m. where some black
males had an altercation inside the
store and a gun was brandished, correct?

"That's correct."

Denton Ward was stomped to death at 2:24 a.m. More than 25 minutes before that there was an incident inside the store involving an altercation with some African males where a gun was brandished in connection with that incident. That's what she just told you. That's Lindsey Ives.

That's what she told Officer Yargo. And they didn't call the police.

You heard Assistant Chief Couch's testimony, yeah, he was asked that question pre-2:00 a.m. incident, yeah, they should call the police. That manager, she said, in deposition, "I told them to take it outside," where Denton Ward was stomped in the parking lot. That alone is enough to cause a "yes" answer to McDonald's as to this question.

1 Proximate cause. I'm going to -with regard to proximate cause, I'll put this to you 2 3 real quick. Okay. Proximate cause means a cause 4 that was a substantial factor in bringing about an event, and without which cause such event would not 5 6 have occurred. In order to be a proximate cause, 7 the act or omission complained of must be such that 8 a person using ordinary care would have foreseen 9 that the event, or some similar event, might 10 reasonably result therefrom. There may be more than 11 one proximate cause of an event. 12 Let's play this real quick. 13 "Would this fight have happened if 14 there was a police officer standing right next to you? 15 16 "No. 17 "Why don't people fight in front of 18 the police? 19 "Because they don't want to go to 20 jail." That's proximate cause. 21 Hire a 22 police officer, put out security, it doesn't happen. 23 It's just that simple. Undisputed evidence. 24 Second part of that now, there's --I'll try to be brief here -- but as I get to Lauren 25

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1
     Bailey Crisp, there's no requirement that you've
     heard -- you've probably been given the impression
2
 3
      that we have to prove that Denton Ward was killed in
4
      the fight in order for McDonald's to be liable.
      That's not what this says. We only have to prove is
 5
 6
      that what happened in the parking lot was a
 7
      substantial factor in bringing about the event.
                                                        And
8
      that if that attack in the parking lot had never
     occurred, Denton Ward and Bailey Crisp would still
9
10
     be alive. There may be more than one proximate
11
              That's what the law is.
      cause.
12
                       But this is still important.
13
     McDonald's expert testified that the reason -- to be
14
      clear, the reason this is important is when you get
      to the percentages this may impact, that is because
15
16
      the evidence is that Denton Ward suffered fatal
17
      injuries in the parking lot and if that's the case,
18
      duty and means, all of those is completely
19
      irrelevant.
                   That's the significance here, not
20
     McDonald's responsibility if he wasn't killed in the
     parking lot.
                    That's not what this law says.
21
22
                       Now, here they have an expert.
23
      told you at the beginning I believe there's
24
      conclusive scientific medical evidence as to what
```

happened. They had an expert, Dr. DiMaio, he says

25

at least 29 miles an hour, 35 to 40 causes this 1 fracture, if he hit something soft. They have an 2 3 accident reconstructionist, he says at most 25 miles an hour. So they don't bring either of them. 4 That's conclusive medical 5 scientific evidence. It's evidence from their own 6 7 experts. You saw the testimony. They didn't bring Now, what did they bring? We have Dr. Z. 8 Let's play this clip here real quick. 9 10 "This is flexion. This is extension. If you hit, we'll say, on 11 12 your forehead where the skull is pushed 13 backward, while the skull -- while the base of the -- well, while the vertebral 14 column is going forward, then you would 15 16 have a hypertension. 17 "And so you believe, with a 18 reasonable degree of medical 19 probability, that this was a blow to the 20 front top of the skull that caused this fracture? 21 22 "It's most likely to either the top 23 of the head or towards the front, with 24 hyperextension of the neck."

25

THE COURT: Time signal, Counsel.

MR. HAMILTON: I need to move along. Here's the issue. DiMaio and Burton agreed this is an injury that's caused by hypertension of the neck. Period. Whether it's a blow to the front forehead or a blow to the chin, he said it could be that, too, this is a hyperextension injury. There's no medical evidence to the contrary.

This is rotation. Well, there may have been rotation. That's what her testimony was. There was rotation in the car. There may have been rotation, but there is not a speck of medical evidence from a medical doctor that this injury can be obtained in that way. Their doctor says it's like this.

They brought you Ms. Corrigan.

Can you get that from somebody's head on the ground. They get kicked in the jaw. Yeah. But there's no medical evidence that allows you to rely on what Corrigan says. There's no doctor that says that's possible. I guess your head -- use your common sense, it's going to break your neck. It's not going to break the base of your skull twisting your head. No medical doctor that says that's possible. And there's nobody ever discussed this.

How does two quarts of blood end up

on the floorboard of this car when his body was in the back wicking up through the carpet. Unrefuted evidence.

They want to talk about this witness said that or this witness' testimony or that witness' testimony. First of all, they don't have some medical expert that tells you that what any of those witnesses say matters.

The lawyers are talking about it, but they don't have an expert to say that. What we do have is unrefuted, uncontested evidence there's a volume of blood in that backseat that could not be created from the fine blood in the nose.

You heard Dr. Dolinak even say he had blood all through his lungs. Even in the parking lot there was blood. Everywhere there was blood. Everywhere there was blood. Everywhere, that's what everybody described. That's what this injury caused.

I only want to address it briefly.

Dr. Dolinak, he just didn't have all the facts. He thought his head hit the pole. He didn't have Edick's deposition. He didn't have any of the girls' depositions. He didn't have any of that. He didn't have any of the photos. He just didn't have

1 any of that. You could see when he came back 2 3 that he wasn't sure. He said, "I don't rule out that it was caused by the fight." This is 4 conclusive evidence. Forensic evidence. Unrefuted. 5 6 Now, proximate cause, the 7 foreseeability could not be disputed. He said he 8 could see -- I want to get to this part quickly. Ι said at the beginning: Did McDonald's accept 9 10 responsibility? No, they had excuses and blame. Wе 11 are not blaming anybody. 12 What all these blanks in here are 13 for, these blanks are for the people, the only one in this case is McDonald's. That's the only 14 defendant in this courtroom. These people aren't 15 16 They're not going to assess blame to them. 17 They're not going to find out about it. That's 18 abating. That's what that's about, period. 19 Marcus Jones. They want you to

Marcus Jones. They want you to
blame Marcus Jones. Blame Marcus Jones for the
whole thing. Blame the whole thing, why did you
hire him. You hired him three months ago. Gave him
a pay check at the time -- the date of his
deposition on Thursday, July 17th, they gave him a
paycheck that said McDonald's Corporation. That's

1 the testimony.

How do you end up employed by McDonald's Corporation? Then he comes in with this new thing, they get him to drop the "N" word, trying to suggest to you with no evidence that one of these two kids was responsible because they said the "N" word. Then he comes back in and says, "I can't say it was one of them."

So he's on their payroll. In all the things I heard in this case there's nothing that gets me more than that this guy is on their payroll, comes in here with this kid's death, nobody can say did a darn thing wrong. They want to go to the restroom, or come in and suggest somebody said the "N" word. Where's the evidence of that?

Then he backs off of it, says,

"Well, I don't who said it." Why did you even

interject that? She says, "I heard Marcus Jones

said he was going to start the fight." I mean,

Tanner Giesen said, "I heard Marcus Jones was

looking to start a fight." That's the evidence.

Now, I said before the -- before I get there, I want to briefly address Hurricane
Harry's. All I say is look at the ordinary care for Hurricane Harry's. Hurricane Harry's violated

ordinary care. There's nothing. The kids had a couple of drinks, their hands were stamped. That was the evidence. There's just no evidence -- expert testimony or otherwise -- that they did something any different than what any establishment in town was doing, period. There's no evidence that's blaming somebody else. That's not what the cause -- what happened here.

Now, with regard to proximate cause for Bailey Crisp, this is what I said earlier. It's substantial factor. That's what the Judge is asking you. Was that a substantial factor that brought about her death and would she have died if that fight hadn't occurred? That answer is clearly no. Clearly no.

First of all, unrefuted medical scientific testimony that if she had stayed in the front seat where she was when she left McDonald's, hadn't crawled in the backseat to render aid, that she'd still be alive. Period. That alone, the unrefuted evidence, obligates you under a preponderance of the evidence to find McDonald's responsible for her death. Unrefuted.

Two, Samantha drove by their house on the way to the hospital. She made it to the

house. If she's not going to the hospital, if she's not in this terrible position, Bailey Crisp would still be alive. That's the question.

They want to blame Samantha, whoever else, but says there may be more than one proximate cause of the event. Doesn't have to be the sole proximate cause. This is the law from the Court, which is what the evidence shows.

The other thing I want to offer here on Lauren Bailey is there's an instruction under Question 3. No. 3 says -- and I'll just read it: If Samantha Bean and Lauren Bailey Crisp were confronted by an emergency. The reason the Court is asking about this is if they were confronted by an emergency arising suddenly and unexpectedly, which was not proximately caused by any negligence on their part and which to a reasonable person requires immediate actions without further time for deliberations, their conduct in such an emergency is not negligence or failure to use ordinary care, if after such emergency arises, they act as a person of ordinary prudence would have acted under the same or similar circumstances.

What this means were it not for Denton getting stomped by 20 guys in the parking

lot -- no, they did what any brave -- frankly, more
than you could expect, they get out in front of that
man, dragged him into the car. Then what would a
reasonable person do? Get them to the hospital.
That's it.

person would try to get the kid to the hospital after that, she's not negligent. That's what this instruction is saying. Even if she does something wrong on the way there, she is not negligent for trying to go to the hospital. That's the only question.

In rebuttal we'll deal with that some more about that issue of if she saw the police. Listen to that evidence real closely when we talk about it, see what that evidence really is. You saw what the witnesses said. We'll talk about that some more. I need to conclude here.

Here's a sudden emergency. Officer Yargo, the only person who you actually heard testimony from, not snippets from opening statement, but that you heard testimony during the trial who said she was not intoxicated. Samantha wasn't intoxicated. Said her blood alcohol was below the legal limit. They told you .08. I don't know where

that came from. Where was that evidence that she
was over the legal limit? That she was intoxicated?
Where was that? He said she was below the legal
limit. She was not intoxicated.

2.0

This portion I'll allow Mr. Langdon to take over and talk about the damages here.

## FURTHER CLOSING ARGUMENTS BY MR. LANGDON

MR. LANGDON: Ladies and gentlemen,

I think the hardest part of this case is damages. I

don't think there's any question that Marcus is

responsible for the deaths of Bailey and Denton.

They didn't bring anybody in here, not one.

One, I want to make one thing clear is that these families didn't have any children to sell out there that day. These children were their first born. Those, both of them. And these children were loved and taught how to love and be kind to others.

They were the kind of children that Texas and the United States are not only proud of, but we need more of. We need more kids like this. We need more kids of faith and hard work and who want to live the American dream. Bailey just wanted to help others. She wanted to be a nurse. Denton wanted to go to Texas A&M, have a family, have

children, just like his family.

You know, when you lose a parent, it's like losing your past. Lose a spouse, it's like passing the present. When you lose a child, you lose your future. You lose a chance to share graduations, marriages, grandchildren. You lose a chance for somebody to talk to, to see their dreams.

And then we life in such a wonderful country we have so many things to share with our children and our grandchildren.

The damages in this case are really about what the parents won't ever share. Neither of these two adults, never heard any evidence about them wanting to make money, that wasn't their goal in life. They wanted to have a life and help others.

On the other hand, McDonald's has never stopped thinking about money. We'll get creative and raise our sales 6 percent, cut costs by cutting security.

Folks, there's nothing wrong with corporations making money. That's our system and that's our way of life, but there is something wrong when they put cost over safety, when they start cutting costs, cutting the safety of the customers.

That's when people in our country come in -- that's where people make decisions. I always hate to tell juries what I think a case is worth. If I'm saying too much, I'll turn them off. If I say too low I do a disservice to my client. But I can tell you, representing these two families, that 10, 20, 30 million dollars to these two wonderful human beings is not too much.

That, ladies and gentlemen, will be up to you. I know one thing, I know that children in Texas and the children in Missouri where I come from are worth such just as much as those kids in New York and California.

In fact, I always think the kids in the middle are the ones that hold this country together. Those are the kids that will make a difference.

When you look at what the Judge has given you on the evidence and you look at what you need to look at, when you talk about damages, when you talk about what comfort and aid these two parents have lost by losing their children, you will see, you will remember what these parents said to you: It's a living nightmare.

When you look at the next section

talking about the emotional distress, that's the hardest thing in the world to go through that. It's like a daze. They want to see their children. The mother wants to see her children even though they're not here, because she needs to say good-bye.

The police come to your house and you just have to think back to one thing, folks, one thing. This was a business decision. This all happened because of the business decision they made back in Illinois at the corporate office. College Station was an unprotected human being. Let's save money. Let's see if we can go without security because that way we won't have to when they make this go nationwide. It's a business decision.

We're saying it never stops.

They're all saying the same thing, "When I go to bed I dream about her. I think about her when I wake up." One of those parents. It's the same thing.

Paul Crisp said that.

Lovely kids. You see their pictures. They're lovely kids. They're our future. What a future, what a dream they had. I'll be waiting to hear what these Defense lawyers say that the damages are because there's no defense to this. McDonald's chose to do a business decision. Folks,

1 if there was, they would have lined them up and brought them up. And you know when you blame others 2 3 for what you're doing, they're refusing to accept 4 personal responsibility. This corporation has refused as we sit here today to accept corporate 5 6 responsibility. 7 And that's why our system --8 because corporate people get to say you've got corporate responsibility for what you did to this 9 10 town, what you did to College Station. You've got 11 corporate responsibility. 12 The police, time after time after 13 time after time, telling you you need security at your restaurant. We don't have problems. 14 We can't keep sending 13 police cars out there. We can't 15 16 keep doing it. What they do is they bring a guy 17 like Sosa in that says there's no problem, there's 18 no pattern. 19 Now is the day. Now is the day. 20 Thank you. CLOSING ARGUMENTS BY MR. ROSENBERG 21 22 May it please the MR. ROSENBERG: Court, Ladies and Gentlemen. 23 24 This is a tragic, tragic accident. This is a case about something that's very dear to 25

me personally. I have a teenager. I don't want to ever have to go through what we went through in this case again, hearing about 18, 19-year-olds drinking and driving, leaving after the police arrived, continuing to drive past police stations, whatnot.

Use your common sense, ladies and gentlemen. What is the reason they kept going?

I want to take you to the very first question you'll be asked, and that is, what caused the death of Denton Ward.

There was an autopsy performed by the only true independent witness in this case, the Travis County Medical Examiner. I watched all of you taking notes when he was testifying as to what he could find, what he could determine the injuries were, both as to the assault and the car wreck.

It was very clear. This courtroom is not about possibilities or probabilities. One, a million dollar chance is, it's about reasonable medical probability.

"Tell the ladies and gentlemen of the jury based upon a reasonable medical probability the injuries you believe Mr. Ward sustained in the assault at McDonald's.

"D" and "e." 1 "Okay. Will you explain to us what 2 3 "d" and "e" is referenced in your 4 report, what those are? "Okay. "D" is fracture of the nose 5 and "e" is scalp and facial contusions 6 7 and abrasions. 8 "And what injuries that you have listed in your findings section do you 9 10 attribute to the assault other than those two that you've just given us, if 11 12 any? "I think those are the -- the two 13 that are the most reasonable --14 reasonably attributed to the assault. 15 All of the others -- well, "i," the 16 17 blood aspiration, bilateral, that 18 could -- that's probably easily attributed to the assault --19 20 "Okay. "-- also. 21 22 "So based upon a reasonable medical 23 probability, what are the three injuries 24 that you believe Mr. Ward sustained at the McDonald's? 25

"The nose fracture, the scalp and 1 2 facial contusion and abrasion and the 3 blood aspiration. 4 "All right. Are any of those injuries fatal in nature?" 5 "No. 6 7 "Okay. And can you give me the 8 basis for that opinion? 9 "Well, they're -- they're not severe 10 injuries, basically. They're easily 11 survivable without much compromise of one's health. 12 "So -- so based upon a reasonable 13 medical probability, if you take the car 14 15 accident out of the equation, what 16 treatment would Mr. Ward have required to heal? 17 "Well, the -- the nose would 18 continue to hurt for a while. And he 19 20 might have some disfigurement from the -- the bruising. When you say 21 22 "return to normal lifestyle" --23 That's what every expert that came 24 in this courtroom agrees. Dr. Corrigan, who came and talked to you -- the first slide and the last 25

1 slide. We know where they finished, every expert 2 agreed on that. 3 Lauren Bailey Crisp was sitting 4 right next to Denton and both died at the time of the collision. She explained to you how it 5 6 occurred. He was sitting in the backseat, massive 7 force to the side of the vehicle, it spun around, he went over the backseat, cantilevered out, all 8 9 experts agreed as to the first slide. 10 All of the experts also agreed that 11 Denton Ward died of blunt force trauma. The death 12 that's again confirmed by the Travis County Medical 13 Examiner. "Going to the findings on 00328 --14 do you see that? 15 16 "Yes. 17 "You list under Category I, "blunt 18 force injuries." Do you see that? 19 "Yes. 20 "And first of all, are there any of these items under "blunt force injuries" 21 22 that you've identified "a" through "j" 23 that could not under any circumstance be 24 caused by a severe beating or stomping? "Yeah. I would not expect "a" to 25

1 occur with the beating/stomping mechanism of injury. "J" I think would 2 3 be highly unlikely also. 4 "Okay. So when we look at the blunt force injuries that you've identified in 5 your findings on Crisp 001238, are there 6 7 any of them other than "a" or "j" that 8 in your mind couldn't be caused by a severe beating or stomping? 9 10 "I think "b" would be highly unlikely also. And I think that would 11 be it." 12 13 Denton Ward died of tragic injuries. He died of the head trauma that he 14 15 sustained. 16 He spent much of this case counter 17 to what the other lawyers said. The other lawyers 18 said in the deposition of Brian Edick, he had the photographs in front of them, spent months and 19 20 months on this. He was charged by the Travis County Medical Examiner to conclude what happened here. 21 22 And he's said exactly what he told us here. 23 This was an accident, a tragic 24 accident that was caused by a car accident. 25 Horrible head trauma. Denton Ward and Bailey Crisp

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1
     were sitting right next to each other, they died at
      the point of impact tragically.
2
 3
                       They brought you the expert from
4
      Atlanta, you know, and if you buy his story, you
     have to discount every one of the statements that
 5
 6
     were taken by the College Station Police Department
 7
      at or near the time of this event. They played you
8
      depositions from two years later, but we know
     Dr. Burton sat right up there and said, "Well, if
9
10
      the statements from Samantha are to believed, they
11
     happened, he was able to walk, talk, take some
12
     voluntary actions, I quess I'm just wrong."
13
     conceded that to you.
14
                       And we know -- you can play the
     video, the next clip, Samantha Bean acknowledged to
15
16
     you that Denton, when she was all the way around on
17
      Texas Avenue had been in the car for eight, nine,
18
      ten minutes.
                    She said at one point Denton --
19
                       MR. HAMILTON: Objection --
20
                       THE COURT: Objection overruled.
                       MR. ROSENBERG:
                                       This is in
21
22
     evidence, Your Honor.
23
                       MR. HAMILTON:
                                      No, it's not.
24
                       MR. ROSENBERG: Denton was
25
      screaming don't take me to the hospital. If he was
```

able to do that, I think it says two things, common sense. What were the kids really thinking about?

They were scared they were going to get in trouble.

No matter how hurt he was, I'm sure he was beat up, they were scared they were going to get in trouble.

But with respect to this issue, you have to totally disbelieve that and discount all of it because if he was able to talk, walk or do anything in the statements that we talked about at the time of the accident, then he couldn't have died because of anything that happened at McDonald's.

This is really hard for me to get up and say. I have a kid just like Denton. Very hard for me. They brought you these experts from Atlanta and from South Dakota and whatnot. But all that aside, use your common sense, ladies and gentlemen. It's hard for me. It's hard for you.

What I would like for you to do, is you heard from Brian, "His face looked like mush," I think the word was. Exhibit No. 44, you'll see is the photograph that the medical examiner took. He said after I cleaned up his face you could see what it looked like and what was really going on here. It wasn't as Mr. Edick described. It was dark out in the parking lot, using a WiFi, whatnot.

Looking at that photograph, No. 44, does it look like what Brian Edick said. That's what the medical examiner told us. What we also know is if you look on that slide that talked about you have to disprove everybody, you have to forget about all the statements at the time to by Burton's theory. That's not what common sense is.

No. 2, look at the photograph from the autopsy. No. 3, what did all the police officers tell us about the severity of this impact? What they told us, what Dr. Corrigan said first in studying this, all these types of accidents that in the universe of accidents this is in the 95th percentile. That's what she told you. That's not anything different that what Jason Summers told us, the officer, he's investigated thousands of accident.

Go to the next, Helen.

So that was the third part.

Where does this collision compare to in the universe of accidents like this? Did the College Station Police Department or any officers you've seen after an incident involving a massive impact with a pole, which is what the officer tells us in his personal experience after having seen

1	these situations for ten years.
2	"Would you agree with me this is a
3	massive collision?
4	"Yes, I would.
5	"Very severe impact between the
6	Toyota and the pole?
7	"That's correct.
8	"Massive damage to the rest of the
9	vehicle?
LO	"Yes, sir.
L1	Were you able to observe that with
L2	your own eyes?
L3	"Yes, sir.
L4	"In the scale of severity that
L5	you've seen over the years as far as the
L6	amount of crush impact to the rear of a
L7	vehicle and a pole, have you ever seen
L8	impact as severe as this during your
L9	career?
20	"Is this one of the most severe that
21	I've seen. I've seen similar ones.
22	"Out of how many do you think you've
23	looked at over the years?
24	"Of that severity, probably no more
25	than five.

1 "Out of a universe of how many? "Out of ten years of being a police 2 3 officer. "Hundreds or thousands? 4 "Probably in the thousands of 5 6 crashes, yes, sir." 7 Described to you took minutes and 8 the length and height of the pole, I think, it was 9 29, 30 inches back into the car. Again, this is 10 relevant because it does support exactly what 11 Dr. Dolinak was saying that Lauren died as a result 12 of the impact. And sitting right next to her, Denton died as a result of the impact at the 13 14 intersection. Please don't leave your common 15 16 sense. This is hard for all of us, but you have to 17 go upon what the evidence is, the experts, the 18 photographs, the documents and the testimony. 19 You've seen that photograph. 20 just shows a different angle. That's exactly what it looked like that night. 21 22 We talked about it in opening. Wе 23 talked about it in voir dire. This is a hard 24 subject for us all to talk about. This is organizations and businesses. Tough decisions. 25 We

are talking about drinking and driving, whether
you're 18, 19 or 60, if you drink and drive and you
know about it, bad things happen. Bad things can
happen.

- I'm not making excuses. We'll talk about McDonald's in a minute. But we know that this accident, this fatality didn't occur at McDonald's. It occurred about halfway around College Station after they left, when they knew the police arrived.
- I think Ms. Bean did an admirable job. She accepted responsibility. The police officers even acknowledged she did a very good job being a good person admitting responsibility. That doesn't mean you're also not negligent.
- I mean, she admitted within hours or days after the incident that she had made a mistake.
- We know the group had been drinking -- at least some of the group had been drinking since 4:00 o'clock, continued to drink and the bar closed down at 2:00. The boys had purchased an 18 pack of beer, 14 of the beers had been consumed. The testimony is unclear as to who, but we know 14 of the 18 pack.

They went to Hurricane Harry's, who

1 had absolutely -- you will see no precautions. had a stamp, one of them washed off in about ten 2 3 seconds. Hurricane Harry's provided -- allowed 4 these young people to drink. There's going to be a blank where you can apportion responsibility. 5 6 After they left at 2:00 o'clock 7 they proceed to go to McDonald's. Talk about the fight, and we know 8 that 38 minutes later they died at the intersection 9 10 of Texas and Holleman. We talked about, said 11 something about .083 or no blood alcohol level but 12 Bailey -- Ms. Bean, she acknowledged to everybody at 13 the time what this was all about, what she knew was in her mind, how she felt. 14 "What was your involvement in the 15 16 investigations? 17 "Being an expert in on-scene intoxication, I am summoned to bad 18 crashes such as this one and other 19 20 things of the nature in order to help provide guidance and help conduct the 21 22 investigation. 23 "Did you follow standard protocol 24 for an accident of this type? "Yes, sir.

1 What do you attribute in this statement? 2 3 "It is clear that she is accepting 4 responsibility for drinking and driving and being intoxicated, correct? 5 "Yes, sir." 6 7 She accepted responsibility. 8 They're going to talk to you about the weather. The detectives were acknowledging you did the right 9 10 thing, you accepted responsibility, but she admitted 11 herself that she was intoxicated to the officer. 12 think this took place at about 4:00 o'clock the next 13 morning. Go ahead, please. 14 Every lawyer said listen there will 15 16 be evidence. Did they know the police had arrived. 17 He said that we'll bring you more evidence. 18 wanted to bring you three separate pieces of 19 evidence to show you that they knew the police 20 officers really are there, are arriving. It's not 21 whether they're right in front of them, they know 22 they're around, there was a police presence, because 23 common sense dictates what we've all taught our 24 kids.

If you do something wrong, if

there's a mistake, if you're hurt, it's your fault 1 or someone else's, if the police are there, stop, 2 3 get help from the police, stop, get help from the 4 police. If they had done that we would not be here 5 today. 6 Go ahead. 7 "So the driver of the vehicle, 8 Ms. Bean, actually did see the -- the 9 police officers in the parking lot? 10 "Yes, she did. She did state she saw the -- some officers in the parking 11 lot. 12 13 "Would you agree with me in fairness 14 to everybody that the appropriate, reasonable thing to do would have been 15 16 to try and seek help from the 17 authorities as soon as possible? "Yes, sir. 18 19 "And there was certainly an 20 opportunity for Ms. Bean to do that 21 while she was in the parking lot, 22 correct? 23 "Yes. 24 "And that occurred by virtue of Ms. Bean seeing the -- one or more of 25

the bicycle police officers, correct?" 1 That's one detective that she told 2 3 that to. Not just one, again, she was honest. told it to another detective, another police 4 officer. We'll talk about that in a minute. 5 the evidence itself from the video cameras said --6 7 the video of the parking lot, that's what the lawyer 8 told you. 9 Next screen, please. 10 This is what the parking lot -- we 11 don't have video at this point. We do have video 12 back in the area where the cars were going. 13 the video still shows is not only did they know the police were there, but the police had actually 14 15 arrived. 16 This depicts at least one had 17 arrived about 21 seconds before they left. 18 literally passed each other. The vehicle arrives at 2:27:11. The car didn't leave until 24 seconds 19 20 later. Right in the same area of the parking lot. 21 Go ahead. 22 She was accepting responsibility 23 for leaving the McDonald's parking lot after the 24 police had arrived.

25

"Either as the police were arriving

1 or after they had arrived, yes, sir. "But it's clear that she was aware 2 3 that police were either there or arriving. She knew that?" 4 It appeared that she knew. 5 6 teach our kids, no doubt, what's going on with a 7 16-year-old about ideals, just like this accident. He thinks he's invincible. He's a great kid. 8 Denton was a great kid. I talked to him, if there's 9 a problem, if the police are there, stop, call mom, 10 11 use your cell phone, call dad, we'll be there in a 12 minute. Don't leave because you're scared, whether 13 or not you did anything wrong, doesn't matter, the police aren't going to drag you down to talk to you 14 about it, just seek out and get help. That's 15 16 exactly what occurred here. I'll show you the 17 Go ahead. 18 evidence to support it. Basically kind of car -what we talked about. 19 20 Go ahead, please. Another trooper will tell you, show 21 22 all four had cell phones and no one reached out during that ten, 11 minutes they were driving around 23

College Station. I think this is important because,

again, we've talked about proximate cause,

24

foreseeability. Is it foreseeable that someone would be in a real -- I'm not saying anything other than what the evidence is, a real fight and a real injury, period, end of discussion. That's what occurred in the parking lot.

The experts can tell you, talk to you about the significance of it. No one will get up and say he wasn't badly hurt. But we know the prudent thing to do, the foreseeable thing that you would expect someone to do is call 9-1-1. They all had cell phones.

Go ahead, please.

"Even after you prepared this report, did you get any information from any of the officers that anyone in Ms. Bean's car ever attempted to make contact with law enforcement before the collision?

"No calls to 9-1-1 or any nonemergency dispatch line was noted by Brazos County or College Station from any one of these four people. And according to Officer Sullivan, Pritchett and Yargo, no one in this vehicle attempted to make contact with them.

1 "And when you say "made contact," you mean as the vehicle was exiting the 2 3 McDonald's parking lot? "Nobody -- they did not stop. They 4 did not acknowledge the officers or 5 6 attempt to speak with the officers." 7 Please don't leave your common 8 sense at that front door. You guys had to listen to this for a week. I wish I could have been there to 9 10 tell Denton and Lauren, please stop, call 9-1-1, do 11 something, pull over. 12 My wife won't let me show the 13 pictures. You're going to look at a 16-year-old. wish I could, because you don't want to talk to 12 14 other people about facts like this ever. 15 16 Go ahead, please. 17 The last trooper was the first 18 responder actually. His name is Steven Taylor. Не 19 was the first responder at the intersection. 20 Go ahead and play. "Okay. And then another event that occurred after the physical 21 22 altercation is Ms. Bean continued to drive for 23 approximately 11 minutes?" The answer was yes. 24 "And during that 11 minutes she certainly had many opportunities to seek assistance 25

1 from law enforcement or simply -- excuse me -- or just simply stop the car, correct?" 2 3 And the first gentleman says yes. 4 Passes right by the College Station Police Department. You're familiar with the route they 5 went, Wellborn Road all the way down, came back, and 6 7 we're talking about either ten or 11 minutes. 8 It's one thing, I totally understand, you're scared, you're 19, you pull -- I 9 10 get that. I would be the same thing if I was 11 scared, probably that exact same situation they're 12 talking about once they got out they continued to 13 drive and drive and drive. They stopped at intersections, went by the apartment, they didn't 14 stop. They went by H-E-B. The Walmart, that's if 15 16 they were open. But this big parking lot where they 17 stopped, anywhere given these decisions, any one of 18 these, we would not be here today if the group -- if 19 Ms. Bean had made any of these decisions different, 20 one of them, we wouldn't be here in this trial today. 21 22 I tried really hard, I talked to my

wife, I talked to Paul, how do you describe what 11

minutes is like. I couldn't think of a good

example. Eleven minutes in a car driving is an

23

24

eternity. There are so many parking lots, so many places to stop.

Common sense tells you why. They were scared. They were scared because Denton was hurt. He was bleeding. And they were concerned about something they hadn't done right, had been drinking, someone involved in a fight, they were scared because they didn't want to be stopped.

That's the true facts. I think everyone agreed.

So I'll speed through this. It's based on uncontested testimony that Samantha Bean was going through the intersection. She was speeding at 65 to 70 miles per hour, I believe it's a 40, maybe 45 zone. They were going about 50 percent over the speed limit.

The crash report, you'll have it back there with you, provided by the College Station Police Department is exactly consistent with what Ms. Corrigan described as far as the vehicle spinning around, going back into that pole. This is not from an expert, this is from the College Station Police Department.

As Unit 2, that's the white Toyota, approached the intersection of Texas and Holleman,

1 driving northbound, the traffic signal turned red. Undisputed. 2 3 Unit 2, traveling at a high rate of 4 speed. You saw the diagram. Dr. Z talking about 60, 70. That's undisputed. 5 6 Unit 2, the Toyota, then entered 7 the intersection without stopping at the red light. We don't need to talk anything about this. 8 from the police department. Undisputed. 9 10 Again, what is more likely than not -- the plaintiffs have the burden of proof. 11 12 What is more likely than not. What we know is had 13 any of these decisions been made differently, y'all would be back with your family, at work, I would be 14 back dealing with another lawsuit, the Judge would 15 16 be dealing with other issues, we wouldn't be here in 17 this courtroom having to deal with any of this if these kids had made a different decision that night. 18 Go ahead. 19 20 Talked about reasonably You will see that in the proximate 21 foreseeable. 22 cause instruction. Is it reasonably foreseeable all

But is it foreseeable for McDonald's or any business

of these things would -- is there a nexus all of

these things would have occurred. There's no doubt.

23

1 owner that all of these things would happen: would be a fight. The police would arrive. 2 3 would leave. They wouldn't use their cell phone. They continue to drive and drive and drive, 4 ultimately run through a red light halfway around 5 College Station. 6 7 I would submit to you, ladies and 8 gentlemen, that that's not reasonably foreseeable. 9 If he had died, if there had been an injury where he 10 died on the premises, that's a different lawsuit. 11 That's not a wrongful death case we're dealing with 12 here. 13 "Okay. Another intervening event that occurred between the time the kids 14 15 were killed and when they left the 16 McDonald's was that she went through a 17 red light, correct? "Yes, sir. 18 "There's no doubt about that? 19 20 "No doubt. "Okay. So what we know for sure is 21 22 that at least in the minute before the 23 point of impact, Ms. Bean was speeding, 24 she ran a red light, and she was not looking in the direction that she was 25

1 going, correct? "Yes. 2 3 "And all of the information in your 4 investigation is consistent in that regard, correct? 5 "Yes, sir." 6 7 Thank you. Next slide. Okay. 8 Okay. He spent a lot of time talking about McDonald's. There's a big stack of 9 10 9-1-1 calls. This is the Northgate area. I'm not 11 going to dispute anything about what these calls for 12 service are about. You can look at them. 13 It's hard when you work HR and people aren't honest with you. They're not 14 15 forthcoming. It takes you way too long to figure 16 that out sometimes. It takes way too long. 17 And here's the problem. Here's the 18 problem. Here are these two individuals, Carlos 19 Butler, Lindsey Ives. You don't report the 20 information. It's almost impossible for corporate These individuals told you what they said. 21 to know. 22 It's very hard as a company if the people you're 23 relying upon don't supply the information and 24 actually withhold it. But, you know what, I agree 25 with a lot. There are a lot of fights in the

```
1
      parking lot, injuries in this parking lot, and
      that's -- I'm sorry about that. I'm sorry about
2
 3
      that.
                       That didn't cause the death of
4
      these two individuals on this day.
 5
 6
                       These two individuals, he's not the
 7
      manager and she's not assistant manager with
8
      McDonald's, period, end of discussion.
                                               That has
      been rectified, period.
9
10
                       We talked about -- you will be
      given lots of names to apportion responsibility.
11
12
      Heard from Tanner Giesen, Denton's friend, who had
13
      supplied the alcohol when he was able to procure it
      through whatever means he was. And you remember his
14
      testimony, hey, dude, hey, man, whatever. We went
15
16
      through that in his deposition and he admitted that
17
      he had procured the alcohol and supplied it for the
18
      18, 19-year-olds.
                       Go to the next one.
19
20
                       We don't know exactly what happened
      that night in the parking lot. I mean, either side
21
```

Well, you know exactly what happened, Tanner Giesen was at the epicenter, so to speak, of what happened. There's a verbal

would have brought it to you if we could.

22

23

24

1	altercation going on and then Tanner was there and
2	then Denton walked out. We'll never know exactly
3	what happened.
4	But listen closely to the way he
5	testified and think about whether or not you think
6	he was involved in it or not. What's more likely or
7	not is the standard.
8	"Okay. And did the fight itself,
9	did that take place outside?
10	"Yes. I remember hitting concrete,
11	yes.
12	"Okay. And what's the first thing
13	you remember about the fight starting?
14	"It was like 30 on two, dude,
15	like I mean, I don't remember.
16	"Okay.
17	"I mean, if you would listen, I just
18	said I hit the ground.
19	"Before you hit the ground, do you
20	remember any yelling at anybody or
21	anybody yelling at you?
22	"I mean, no. I mean, I don't know,
23	dude. I really don't."
24	They talked about medical amnesia.
25	Now, while it's medical amnesia, you don't want to

```
1
      say something, but he was able to recall the things
      that the lawyer wanted him to recall. It's medical
2
 3
      amnesia when the lawyer, defense lawyer is trying to
4
      do his job, get information, "I don't remember. I
      can't recall, dude."
 5
                       When it's convenient to help the
 6
7
      other side, he can remember things.
                       I would submit to you the evidence
8
      has shown that this gentleman, he was at the
9
      epicenter. You guys will visit, see what the
10
11
      evidence is, but at the center of all this, there
12
     was, you know, a punch thrown, a verbal altercation.
13
      I submit to you the evidence shows that he was in
14
      the epicenter of it.
15
                       Then, we know Marcus Jones got
      involved and we know exactly what happened.
16
17
                       THE COURT: Time signal, Counsel.
18
                       MR. ROSENBERG: After that what
19
      happened next.
20
                       "So when you walked out that front
                  door, what happened next?
21
                       "I walked to Andre and that's when
22
23
                  it -- well, that's when I heard all that
24
                  yelling, but Andre was in the mix, like,
                  he was in -- over there yelling and
25
```

going back and forth, and I walked over to tell him, "Let's go," and when I was over there, I heard somebody say, "You want something, too, Nigga," and that's how it all started, the whole fighting, and that's -- I remember me and a dude fought, and I did take the first swing.

"You took the first swing?

"Yeah."

That's when he heard all the yelling back and forth and he walked over there to Tanner when he hears somebody say -- and that's the time he started fighting. He remembers me and the dude fighting.

Now, he admitted he took the first swing. He said he works for a bakery. He works for a bakery. He admitted he threw the first punch. There's no reason, we should never acknowledge that he doesn't have responsibility when the man threw a punch, when there's kids screaming at each other, whatever the verbal altercation between Denton and the other group, he was responsible. He admitted it.

I would submit you should apportion an appropriate responsibility on it. There was kids

screaming at each other, but this guy took the first swing. After that we know what happened. There was a fight and they left the parking lot.

Go ahead.

McDonald's doesn't serve alcohol.

They're not experts in alcohol. The security issues, there's a big stack of fights right there.

We talked about it. Should there be security out there that night? I think probably so. We're not going to disagree with anybody. There's a lot of fights out there.

But the experts in alcohol, that's really the core issue, is the bar right across the way. They're the experts in alcohol. What are you supposed to do? What we know is those kids had been there since I think about midnight until about 2:00 o'clock. Look at your notes. You had them in the notes.

The evidence was that either Tanner or Denton -- I think it was Tanner was served five drinks or more, five of these large drinks. They had no mechanism to prevent drinking by people over 21 -- or under 21. You heard the evidence, they all had a stamp and Lauren we know real quick -- these people are about making money. The

- 1 more people you have at a bar under 21 -- over 21,
- 2 the more money you make. They had no meaningful
- 3 mechanism in place to prevent these kids from
- 4 drinking as much alcohol as they did.
- 5 Tanner, Marcus Jones and this bar,
- 6 this business, you're going to get an opportunity to
- 7 apportion responsibility.
- I don't have a lot of time. Go
- 9 | back. You have good notes. Look at what the
- 10 evidence was about each of these entities: The bar,
- 11 Tanner, Jones, McDonald's, John Does. What that
- 12 means is the other people there with Jones that hit
- 13 | Tanner. John Does. Those are the people the police
- 14 | never caught, but the law permits -- the Judge will
- 15 instruct you, you can apportion responsibility. And
- 16 those other people, we don't have their names, but
- 17 that is what the John Does mean.
- This is a car accident, a tragic,
- 19 | tragic car accident that occurred ten minutes later
- on the other side of College Station. Had the kids
- 21 | made any of these decisions differently, we wouldn't
- 22 be here today.
- Paul is a member of your community.
- 24 | I live in Houston now. I'll ask Mr. Murphy to talk
- 25 to you a little bit about what damages are

1 appropriate in your community if you get to that point. He'll talk to you about his perspective on 2 3 things. 4 I'm a lawyer that has been dealing with this two years, putting the facts together. I 5 6 want him to visit with you about how this is 7 important. I appreciate your time over the last 8 week, more than a week. Thank you. 9 MR. MURPHY: If it please the 10 Court, Your Honor. 11 CLOSING ARGUMENTS BY MR. MURPHY 12 MR. MURPHY: All right. Folks, 13 I've been silent for a week and a half and it's hard for lawyers to be silent for a week and a half. 14 Μy wife probably would tell you that. 15 16 This is a serious case. It's qot serious issues. 17 I'm going to tell you what I saw in 18 this courtroom. Some of it I saw with you live. 19 I've never seen a lot of this testimony. In fact, 20 most of it I have not. So I'll give you a very real 21 feel for the evidence. 22 I want to go over it briefly and 23 I'm going to make a statement. I get about 15

minutes. I'll be open and honest with you. You may

not like me for it. It's an occupational hazard.

24

1 I'll tell you the truth as best I can.

Okay. Alcohol and consumption of alcohol by teenagers was the root cause of the events leading to the death of those two teenagers. And that's the truth. You can call it whatever you want. You can call it the root cause. You can call it a substantial factor. But I'm not going to do a disservice to anyone who comes to this courtroom and this former sanctuary and come down here and agree to some alternate reality. I'm not doing it.

Let me explain. The plaintiffs, what they've done in this case, is going to blow this cover here. What they have attempted to do is get you angry with the situation, frustrated with the situation, and transfer that anger to McDonald's. That's what they've done. And they've been successful. They've been successful with some of you, I'm certain. Okay.

Let me explain it a little further. The circumstances of the evening. Teenagers drinking in this town is epidemic. They know that we look out for one another in this community and they know that, too. Mr. Hyde, I think I saw you helping Ms. Hsieh all week with that last step. That was a doozy, helping her back and forth up the

1 steps.

2.0

It's obvious. It's evident how we take care of each other, how we watch out for each other. They noticed it and so they say there's a problem: It's McDonald's. It's not the teenagers who decided to consume alcohol.

I want you to look over there.

That's not the problem. I want you to consider the events of the night. I'll go through it real quick.

I've just got a short period of time.

Here we go. 4:00 o'clock in the evening. They go to an apartment. Unfortunately the liquor cabinet is raided. There's no liquor at the house. That's what Ms. Bean is upset about. She's upset because the liquor cabinet got raided earlier.

This is a young lady who experimented with alcohol and she's graduated. Her friend brings over a box, that's what she calls it, a box of alcohol. The box of alcohol was 18, 14 of them knocked out, saving four.

Now, Ms. Bean tells you that she didn't partake. I guess she's still upset about the lack of her liquor in the cabinet or whatever. She doesn't partake. Sober as a Judge. She goes down,

she climbs into the car, doesn't drive the car from the apartment to Hurricane Harry's. I wonder who did? I wonder what condition they were in. I'll betcha had they followed the rule that you don't drink and drive -- my kids have already heard that -- I'll bet you, if they had never left the apartment that evening, if they had never made it to Hurricane Harry's. Nothing would have happened.

But somebody got in the vehicle who had been drinking and drove from there to Hurricane Harry's. It's time to go out on the town after drinking from 4:00 to about 10:30, 11:00 at night.

I've got an axe to grind about
Hurricane Harry's preventive measures. You want to
hear it? Wait for it. The scarlet letter that they
put on people who are under 21 who want to drink
alcohol in an establishment is a stamp on the
underside of the teenager's wrist, that one of them
goes and washes off in the bathroom as they're
entering the club.

Is it conspicuous? Is it durable?

Didn't work. Ms. Bean said that she has hers on.

The others didn't worry about it, walking around

Harry's drinking alcohol, Jack and Coke. Her

testimony.

about them? Who's outraged over that? Focus on the Golden Arches. The Golden Arches. After that they leave the club, right? Who drives from the club, Hurricane Harry's to McDonald's? Not the first place they didn't follow the rule that you don't drink and drive. Went from Harry's to McDonald's.

They go to the Golden Arches. They get in the parking lot at McDonald's. What happened there? Ms. Bean testified -- and I heard her say the parking lot looked dangerous, people there looked thuggish. That's what she said.

Now, the boys aren't as concerned about it as the girls. Nonetheless, they get out of the vehicle and go into McDonald's. Okay. You heard testimony that the parking lot was not emotionally charged when the boys walked through the parking lot. That's the testimony.

The boys go into McDonald's despite some other testimony from two witnesses that say they blocked them at the door, knocked their hat off. That's where the whole thing started.

Nonsense, look at the evidence. Look at the pictures. They walked right through the middle of McDonald's. They go back to the restroom, use the

restroom, they walk back out. Guess what happens.
Nothing.

They go back into the parking lot where there's this crowd that's now emotionally charged and something happens. What's more likely than not, that's for you to decide what happened in the parking lot.

What do you think the medical amnesia guy says what happened? We walked out, they said, wrong neighborhood cowboy at the McDonald's on University Drive, okay, maybe, I don't know, that's for you to decide. Medical amnesia guy -- the other guy who I'm not about to defend is the other guy, though, has no right to sticks and stones, you can't throw a punch at somebody, okay. He says they use the "N" word.

All of a sudden this not emotionally charged becomes very emotionally charged, and this guy gets punched and there's a fight about to ensue between a bunch of guys stomping and kicking him, doing whatever they're doing.

A crowds draws around, outraged at these people, outraged at the guy that threw the punch in the first place. Are you kidding me? All

1 right. So what's next.

Then they get in the vehicle, drive off into the night. Ms. Bean said at least three different things as to why she was speeding off into the night.

You want me to go? Here we go.

Number one, I thought that they may be chasing us. That's what she says. I thought they may be chasing us. She never looks in the rear view mirror, stops for pedestrian traffic as she's crossing Northgate over to A&M. Stops at every single red light along the way except for the one at Holleman and Texas Avenue. That's her testimony. She's afraid they're chasing her.

Okay. That's version number one.

Version number two. Let me think, the police pull her over. That's trying to get the police to pull me over. How about you go to the police station, pull in the parking lot, call 9-1-1 from there. I bet they catch you. Her plan was to speed around influenced by alcohol, influenced by being intoxicated, perhaps. When did that happen? When did this intoxication happen? When did the introduction of alcohol happen?

It happened at the McDonald's

parking lot? No. It didn't happen at the
McDonald's parking lot.

Third, they're trying to get her friend help. That's the most reasonable excuse I've heard so far probably with that one. They leave the parking lot, one of the girls is waist high out of the moon roof, did you catch that? Pulling out of McDonald's parking lot, moon roof wide open, how about you stop and let the people know my friend's hurt in the back, somebody help. No evidence of that.

What about at the various stoplights, they stop at all the red lights they stop at, how about that. How about you get out and say, "Can you get some people, my friend is hurt." How about the numerous places along the way that you can stop, places that are open 24 hours a day? What about places that just have big parking lots, Ringer's Library, go to the College Station High School, go to Consolidated, wherever, stop somewhere, call 9-1-1 if you're so concerned about your friend that he's hurt. When did this concern arise?

Did it happen when you were driving intoxicated? You ran a red light and slammed into a

pole and two people who should not be dead died? Is that when that story came up?

I'm not going to sit here and agree to some alternate reality where facts don't matter.

Apportionment. So why would you do that, why would you transfer all that frustration and anger over to McDonald's? Because of money.

Because of money. Golden Arches. People see them like -- there are some people that see them like they're trucking companies. Truck drivers, that's my day job. I have to deal with it all the time. They see money.

Why do you talk about an expert that's just paid \$100,000 or whatever the expert writes up the word. What's that all about? What's the import of saying companies like BP and Exxon Valdez and different manufacturers trying to lump them all in together. You know what you get, you get good and angry at McDonald's. That's it.

Just answered the question. Get good and angry at McDonald's. Forget about alcohol. It's magical mystique. Don't look over here, I'm pulling a rabbit. That's all it is. So we're too intelligent for that. We're too smart. I know this community. How do you do it?

I've already talked about it in part, put Carlos Butler and Lindsey Ives or any other -- to work over there at McDonald's. They were actively concealing information. These were people that were -- I think they were actively concealing. That guy got up in a deposition and lied under oath, under a penalty of perjury.

Lindsey Ives, you heard her saying that College Station police officers had lied. What do you think they're telling their employer? That's why you say two-year spotless record, you're not telling them anything. They have no idea. What's more likely than not, that's for you to decide.

We never get into corrective measures talking about, you know, what McDonald's has done internally. We're here to decide what caused the death of Denton Ward and Lauren Crisp. We've got to defend that case.

Now, I'll talk to you about everything else after the trial, but I can't right now.

Apportionment, we talked about that a little bit and let's start talking about Tanner Giesen now. Okay. That pillar of society, provided alcohol to all of his buddies, right? Talking about

1 these kids, I'm talking about the guy that came back, that brought the 18 pack of beer to them and 2 3 served to it them. That's who I'm talking about. 4 I'm talking about the bar that really doesn't care whether you drink or not. They 5 6 stamp underneath your wrist, oh, well that takes 7 care of that. Enjoy. That's who I'm talking about. 8 I'm talking about a little girl 9 that should have never gotten behind the wheel of 10 the car anyway because she shouldn't have had 11 alcohol in her system, period. That's what I'm 12 talking about. 13 I'm talking about the guy that 14 threw the first punch in the parking lot. Absolutely no excuse. Call it the "N" word. 15 16 don't care. I don't care. It's an awful word. 17 Nobody should be called the "N" word. There's a 18 time to walk away. There's a time to be the bigger 19 person. It's just ignorance. There's a time where 20 you've got to suck it up. I heard plenty of it. My mother, 21 22 grandmother, I heard it. Okay. You've got to walk 23 away, be mature. I've got news for you, too, folks.

Maturity is a big issue in this case. Big issue in

this case. It's the issue in this case if we're

24

just being honest with each other.

The guy that threw the punch and those others in the crowd that kicked him, beat him while he was down, 15, 20 people on one, got to be kidding me. Absolutely cowards. Let's not make excuses. Let's not blame or point the finger at anybody. That's being honest.

And what I want you guys to do when you go back to the jury room, the way you were selected in jury selection, you were selected because we wanted you to be honest, however it comes out.

My son asked me last week, my 13, soon to be 14-year-old tomorrow, asked me during this trial last week, "Dad, who's going to win this case?" I said, "Son, no one is going to win this case. No one. Those parents are without their children forever. Nobody is going to win this case."

But as long as we're here to determine legal issues in a case, I want you to be honest with yourselves too. Sometimes that may be standing alone. That's the truth. I don't mind. I've lost a lot of friends being honest with them. That's what love is. Love is somebody, your honest

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with them. You love yourself, you have to be honest
1
2
     with yourself.
 3
                      Back in the jury room in
4
     deliberations they just get to the point somebody
      leaning on you, "Well, I don't know." You do know.
 5
      You do know. Be honest with yourself that day.
 6
 7
     Stick to your convictions. Stick to what you like
      and what is true and what is honest.
8
                      Don't follow this magical
9
10
     misdirection. Don't go through this. It's transfer
11
     all your anger and frustration or sympathy to the
12
      families and let's go pick up the Golden Arches.
13
      That's all that's going on in this room and I can't
      stand it.
14
                       I thought about damages just
15
16
     briefly and that's what Marshall asked me to do and
17
      I've gone on other topics. I just can't, I can't
18
      sit there and not say it. Okay. Damages.
      10, 20, 40 million dollars, my friends. You've got
19
20
     to be kidding me. You've got to be kidding me.
                       I know in voir dire he got up said
21
22
     well, we'll be asking for millions of dollars in
```

Okay. Let's talk about what a

this case. Millions of millions doesn't surprise me

23

24

in the least.

human life is worth. I'm not going to criticize
them and tell them they weren't worth everything.

Sure. They were absolutely. I'm not going to take
his suggestion and not say I'm sorry these kids'
families don't have their children. I'm sorry that
those families don't have their children and I'm not
going lie to them and tell them it's because

something other than what it is.

I'm not. And you shouldn't. You should absolutely refuse, though. I won't be part of that. With my kids I'm brutally honest with them. Sometimes it's tough, but I love my kids. I've got to be honest with them when they make mistakes, when they get in circumstances and situations they shouldn't be in. I'm not going to lie to them. I'm not going to lie to anybody else.

And you 12 jurors can't lie to these families who's talking about sending messages. Be careful the message you send. It's epidemic in this town and I'm sick of it. We're not going to sit here and ignore the epidemic, the root cause and real problem, what precipitated all of the events of this night because they're the Golden Arches, they can afford it, they spend billions of dollars on advertising.

You remember that little sound like 1 it wasn't accidental. It was a plan. What's 2 3 appropriate? The answer is I don't know. A quarter 4 of a million dollars per family for the damages? Half a million dollars for a family? I wrote down 5 6 don't be surprised if they ask for a million dollars 7 for a family. 8 Obviously wasn't expecting the 10, 20, 40, whatever. 9 Look at the nature of the 10 damages. You can assess for the nature of the 11 damages, you can assess for failure and reasonably 12 compensate, not punish. Not pound the flesh. 13 mean, to teach somebody a lesson. That's probably what you will hear in a few minutes. 14 I urge you to look at the Jury 15 16 Charge. I trust the people of this community. 17 family has lived here for generations. I chose this for a reason. We hold each other accountable. 18 hold each others decision and actions. 19 And it's 20 incredible to me that the only thing we hear from the plaintiff's table over here is responsibility. 21 22 Corporate responsibility. What about personal 23 responsibility? What about that? 24 What about an 18, 19-year-old that makes a decision, a conscious decision, and now 25

conveniently at the courthouse they want to call it something else? This is just all McDonald's. This is all about a busted security system. That's what it is. Absolutely nonsense.

I don't have anything else. I appreciate your attentiveness. I appreciate you coming down here and serving on this jury. It's invaluable to this community. Jury service comes up, we all get called, Judge Smith doesn't let you go home when we get called. I'll be here. I can't tell you how much I appreciate you.

I've been watching the jury this whole week, each one of you, because I chose you and I would be disappointed if every single one of you hadn't paid attention and every single one of you hadn't focused on the oath. I saw people taking notes. If you had to do that, by all means.

Continue to listen to all of the attorneys from Dallas and attorneys from out of state. Listen to all of the evidence. I want you to make a good decision.

I know that this case is in good hands when you will be back there deliberating. Be honest with yourselves.

## CLOSING ARGUMENTS BY MR. HAMILTON

MR. HAMILTON: Ladies and gentlemen, I told you the law that you apply is right here. And if anybody stands up and tries to get you to do something that's different than what is in this document, they are asking you to disregard the law. And that's what I expected would happen.

Mr. Murphy is an excellent lawyer. Very talented lawyer and he's a local lawyer. But what you're being asked to do -- he's not the only local lawyer in this case. What you're being asked to do is to apply the facts that you heard in this courtroom to the law that you have been provided.

I'm not the one that stood up and played on emotion on the liability questions. I didn't do that. I walked you through the evidence and the facts in this case. And that's what you have to decide this case on. Period. That's all you're allowed to consider.

The other considerations, I didn't say send a message. I said answer the questions that are right here. That's not in here. Send a message to who? That's not what you're being instructed to do. You didn't sit here for two weeks

to throw this in the trash because of some emotional
thing somebody told you to do.

I could do that, too, but we're here to talk about the facts and the evidence in this case.

Now, they admit for the first time that they need security. Good to hear it. Good to hear it. It's not what the regional security manager says. How long is that going to last? Good to hear. So for two years we hear, no, it's not our fault. Disregard it. No, nothing to do about it. Now today we hear they should have had security.

Let's go to Samantha. I told we talked about Samantha's issue of seeing the police.

Now, you notice what they did. The testimony, very, very important. You were instructed, the Charge says what you are to consider is only the evidence you hear in this trial. They played you snippets that weren't played during the trial, that I didn't get a chance to hear the whole testimony. Did they have any officer who said, "I was on the scene and I saw Samantha"? No, they don't have that. They have other officers and a photograph.

Do they have an officer that says, "I'm the one in the photograph that's a police

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1
      officer"? No.
                      That's their argument.
                       There's no evidence of that.
2
 3
      Here's what the evidence is.
                                    This is Officer Yargo,
4
      the first police car on the scene, the first police
      car on the scene.
 5
                       "Did you ever see the 4Runner on
 6
 7
                  site?
 8
                       "No. I -- I don't recall seeing it.
                       "Okay. So the 4Runner was already
9
10
                  gone by the time you got there?
                       "Yes."
11
12
                       Officer Pritchett on the bicycle.
13
                       "Did you see the 4Runner drive off?
                       "I honestly don't remember."
14
                       The only other officer, Officer
15
16
      Sullivan. They never brought you Sullivan. There's
17
      no testimony from Sullivan as to what he saw.
18
      what they've done is told you over and over and over
19
      again in this trial, over and over and over again
20
      the snippets of testimony from officers who weren't
      there without any statement from Samantha Bean.
21
22
      Never heard a statement from Samantha Bean saying,
23
      "I saw the police." There's no evidence of that.
24
                       They told you over and over, there
      are these three officers and they left. Only two
25
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	id no. One said "I	1				
Here's what the other witnesses  said. Let's go back.  "Do you remember whether or not th  police had arrived by the time the car  left? I'm talking about  "No. The car the car I thin  the car was already gone when the police arrived.  "Do you remember specifically?  "They were she they were gon  by the time the police arrived.  "Before that you said, "By the time the officers got there, Denton and them had already left." And you said, "Yes.  "Yes.	don't remember." The one with the car flashing					
said. Let's go back.  "Do you remember whether or not the police had arrived by the time the car left? I'm talking about  "No. The car the car I thin the car was already gone when the police arrived.  "Do you remember specifically?  "They were she they were gon by the time the police arrived.  "Before that you said, "By the time the officers got there, Denton and them had already left." And you said, "Yes."	lights said no.					
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the car was already gone when the police arrived.  "Do you remember specifically?  "They were she they were gon by the time the police arrived.  "Before that you said, "By the time the officers got there, Denton and them had already left." And you said, "Yes.  "Yes.	about	8				
arrived.  "Do you remember specifically?  "They were she they were gon by the time the police arrived.  "Before that you said, "By the tim the officers got there, Denton and them had already left." And you said, "Yes.  "Yes.	"No. The car the car I think					
"Do you remember specifically?  "They were she they were gon by the time the police arrived.  "Before that you said, "By the tim the officers got there, Denton and them had already left." And you said, "Yes.  "Yes.	the car was already gone when the police					
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"Before that you said, "By the time the officers got there, Denton and them had already left." And you said, "Yes."  "Yes."	she they were gone	13				
the officers got there, Denton and them had already left. And you said, "Yes.  "Yes.	ice arrived.	14				
had already left." And you said, "Yes.  "Yes.	ou said, "By the time	15				
18 "Yes.	ere, Denton and them	16				
	And you said, "Yes."	17				
"Okay. Do you remember the bicycl		18				
	remember the bicycle	19				
police officers being in the parking	20					
21 lot?		21				
"Yes.		22				
"Okay. Do you remember in	remember in	23				
relationship to the time of the car	time of the car	24				
		25				

1 "Maybe within two minutes." "Okay. And how much time had passed 2 3 between when they were driving off and the police showed up? 4 "It was shortly after, like -- I 5 6 don't -- I don't know if I should say 7 like an exact time or an estimate of time. 8 No. Seconds? Minutes? 9 10 "I would say probably minutes." Every eyewitness at the scene --11 12 what did Samantha see? The same thing. Every 13 eyewitness at the scene, the police came afterwards. You don't have to check your common sense at the 14 door, I agree with that. 15 16 If they had testimony from an 17 officer that said "I saw this car at the scene," you 18 would have heard it. If they had a statement from 19 Samantha Bean saying "I saw the car at the scene," 20 you would have heard it. Instead what they do is play an 21 officer in a photo that showed them but they don't 22 23 let you see the rest of the testimony. We never 24 heard from them. This is the evidence in the case, what Samantha Bean said over and over again. 25

- you see the police?" "No, no, no. I saw the police station."
- We'll talk about that later. Then
  they never came back to that. That's what she
  testified was, she saw the police station. They
  told the officer and the officer said -- I
  understand people from small towns, they don't know

those are open at night. Okay.

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9 Now, what this is all about, this 10 discussion of confusion and misdirection, that's not 11 about the Charge. It's an effort to keep the 12 verdict down. That's what they're doing. That's 13 why they have all these lawyers. They don't want to be held fully accountable. That's what this is 14 about. You see, they want to say we will accept 15 16 responsibility. We need security, but look over 17 here, look over here, other people that aren't in 18 this case, they should have accepted personal 19 responsibility.

Ladies and gentlemen, there's not a question in this Charge that says was Denton Ward negligent. This is what the Court is asking you to do. There is no evidence that Denton Ward was negligent. Nothing.

And, in fact, for all this talk,

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1
      the Court's instruction that the Court read to you,
     when they tried to get into this evidence you were
2
 3
      instructed that you are to disregard any comments
4
     you may have heard about either Ms. Crisp or
     Mr. Ward being under the influence of alcohol.
 5
                      And they're trying to tell you he
 6
 7
     was drunk driving.
                          That's not evidence.
                                                You've
8
     been instructed not to consider it. They're asking
     you to disregard the law. You have taken an oath.
9
     Ms. Bean was never going to drive. That's why the
10
      sudden emergency instruction is in there.
11
12
     didn't get behind the wheel until Bailey dragged
13
     Denton into the car. That's when she got behind the
     wheel.
14
                       The evidence was that she was below
15
16
      the legal limit.
                        They told her -- I won't have time
17
      to play it. You remember the testimony of these
18
     witnesses saying she said they weren't safe here.
     Remember the three African-American females, "Get
19
20
     out of here, you're not safe here."
                      What does a reasonable person do?
21
22
     And what did the detective -- they didn't show you
23
      the rest of this. Play this clip, please.
```

You state, "Could you have done

"And then a couple of more things.

24

1 things" -- "a few things differently? Yes, but you were doing the best you 2 3 could given the situation. Do you see 4 that part? "Yes, sir. 5 6 "What -- explain what you mean by 7 that statement. 8 "Based on the totality of the circumstances that -- and also taking 9 10 into account her age, maturity level, I felt that she was doing everything that 11 12 she could given that situation and her 13 level of maturity. I mean, we're all humans and we make mistakes. And that's 14 basically what -- what I was getting at 15 16 there. 17 "Okay. And then you -- you state at the very bottom, "Anyhow, you did great 18 19 and I am impressed with your honesty. 20 Most people your age would not have had 21 the courage to be as honest as you 22 were." And then that's the end of your 23 e-mail to Samantha; is that correct? 24 "Yes, sir." THE COURT: Time signal, Counsel. 25

MR. HAMILTON: The police didn't say she made a mistake, she did the best she could under the circumstances. That's what the sudden emergency instruction is. That's what the law is. That's what it is.

Now, I want to turn to the issue of the cause of death of Denton Ward. Dr. Dolinak did the best job he could. But here's the one fact that you need to know with Dr. Dolinak. All the experts agree there was a blunt force trauma. Everybody except Dr. Corrigan. Dr. Dolinak said he believed that Denton Ward's head hit the pole. That was what he believed. That's what he testified to.

And all of the experts agree that that was not correct. That was not a correct fact. It's not Dr. Dolinak's fault. These are the facts. They don't contend that Denton Ward hit the pole.

No one has explained where all that blood came from. Dr. Dolinak explained that he didn't have all of the facts.

To say that this kid just had a broken nose and maybe didn't need medical treatment, I don't think there was a lawyer that can stand up and say that. He just didn't know what the -- at the time he did that -- and you could hear him on

the phone call with the Detective Cooper saying
that -- I'm having a difficult time. And it's hard
without a better account of the assault. But we
just go with what we have. That's what he said.

But the real thing that ends this is forensic evidence of the amount of blood. You think somebody that has that much blood, that's 3 inches up the carpet, doesn't need to go to the hospital.

I mean, we've all seen people with a bloody nose. You can use your common experience on that. I've seen a lot of blood from a bloody nose. Fill up 3 inches of carpet in the backseat of the car?

Dr. Dolinak said you have blood in his lungs. He couldn't get the skull fracture plus the broken jaw or just the broken nose and lungs full of blood and carpet full of blood. Blood everywhere. That's what the witnesses said. No more likely than -- more likely than not, that's the standard.

I think the evidence is, is that

Denton Ward had fatal injuries from what happened at

McDonald's. He had a fractured skull. There's only

one explanation that's consistent with the evidence.

And that's that he received a kick to the jaw that drove the bones of the jaw up into the base of the skull, caused the fracture exactly where they occurred, hyperextended the neck and caused those other injuries. That's the only explanation that's consistent with this.

If it's to the top of the head, how does he get the broken jaw. He has a broken jaw, a broken base of the skull and all of the medical experts agreed that the blow can occur when you get hit right here driving these bones into the skull and twisting the head back and causing those other injuries to the brain stem.

That's what the article that

Corrigan read from said. That's what the medical

article -- that's the hyperextension injury. Here's

what you have to do. Dr. Dolinak did say he

believed some of his head hit the pole, that's what

killed him. We know that being true, Dolinak had

one photo that showed his head near the pole but the

other photo you saw where his head was a foot away

from the pole.

Every single expert said his head never touched the pole. They said that very clearly. His head never touched the pole.

Dr. Corrigan says it was -- (unintelligible) -there's no medical evidence that could possibly
work. You have to hear the evidence. There's no
medical evidence that that can cause this injury.

And they want to say, oh, look at Corrigan, look at technology. They're saying two different things. Dr. Burton is the only one who gave an explanation that was consistent with the forensic physical evidence.

And I want to -- I do want to address this. They showed a statement from Samantha. Samantha was a wreck. Can we go the -- here's the original statement from Samantha. I can't get it to zoom properly. It says "I was a, like, you know, asking some questions because Denton kept trying to fall asleep. Well, Tanner got mad that we were taking him to the hospital. Tanner got mad that we were taking him to the hospital and I was, like, I screamed back -- the last thing I remember screaming, Denton saying, like, I told him to shut up, that we had to take Denton."

That's what the original statement was that Samantha gave to the police. So they want to take a snippet here, a snippet there and say, oh, that has to negate Dr. DiMaio who said Denton was

```
walking, Tanner was the one laid up. If they didn't
1
     know these two quys -- said over and over again,
2
 3
      they pointed to it.
4
                       Detective Cooper interviewed her.
      She got the names mixed up the first thing she said
5
     when she came in the deposition. Why do they have
 6
 7
     to rely on bogus evidence like that if they really
8
      think their story lines up. That's a fair question.
                       Last thing, making a call.
9
10
      Samantha, why didn't you make a call? Why didn't
      the four of them get on their cell phones and make a
11
12
     call.
                                   Time, Counsel.
13
                       THE COURT:
                                      Make a call.
14
                       MR. HAMILTON:
      Samantha is driving the car. Bailey is tending to
15
16
     her boyfriend who's unconscious, going in and out of
17
      consciousness. Tanner's been stomped too.
18
      supposed to make a call.
                       Let's talk about who else had a
19
20
     cell phone. Eddie Sosa. Michael Ray. Jesse Perez.
21
     Mamadi Douno, did any of them make a call to get
22
     security at this restaurant to fix this problem?
23
     And now they just want to point at these kids for
24
     decisions they made in a sudden emergency.
```

As the instruction is for the

25

11-minute-time period, all of that, if that's the only reason we're here, they showed you a time line. What's missing from the time line? McDonald's. They say, oh, they started at 4:00 p.m. That wasn't the evidence. They didn't show up until 6:00 or 7:00, that's what Samantha said. There's no evidence that Denton had any meaningful amount of alcohol and he's not on the chart, period.

In conclusion here's the issue. I appreciate your service. I thank you for your time. This is very, very important. You can see that it's very important. They don't have this many lawyers and this many clerks. This system is important. They don't have lawyers, this many experts if they don't think that there's a lot of people out there that would rightfully think they ought to have to pay fully. Not half justice. Half justice is half injustice. Whole justice is justice for the loss of these kids. And I would respectfully submit to you that McDonald's has not been responsible, that they don't respect the value of human life.

I showed you -- I'm not going to touch it. How would Mr. Murphy -- for a quarter of a million dollars would he hand over one of his kids? Half a million dollars? Who would do that

```
1
      among you? What does that say? What does that say?
     Who would do that? Would anybody at that table do
2
 3
            Who would do that?
                       I get to ask the questions I do.
4
     What would it take for one of us? What would I
 5
 6
     want?
            Nothing. It wouldn't matter.
                                            So they're
 7
     going to come in and make these types of decisions,
     not decisions in a car 11 minutes from the scene.
8
     Not decisions in the parking lot.
9
                      Talk about explaining the courage
10
      to get out of the car, getting them into the car
11
12
     away from a mob, not those decisions, decisions
13
      about defending themselves, preventing this.
14
                      The one thing that happened here,
      that stops all of it. The one thing -- that's what
15
16
     we're talking about. McDonald's. It's the one
17
      thing that keeps us out of this courtroom.
18
      don't want to be here.
                              Again: Hire security. You
19
      don't hear the story. Again: Hire security.
20
                      It's because it's the one thing.
     Everything else could be the same. Prior nights.
21
22
      The same kids making it home. Denton stays behind
23
      the wheel. They make it just fine, period.
24
                      The thing that sets all of this in
```

motion and that's the cause test, is McDonald's.

25

```
1
      That's why we're here. They know that's why we're
            I'm asking you to follow the law, follow the
2
 3
      evidence, apply the law to the evidence and give
4
      full justice to these parents and these families.
     And when you come back in here hold your head up
 5
     high that you have done something important for your
 6
 7
     community, for the State and your country and give a
8
     verdict that you can be proud of. Thank you.
                       THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen of
9
10
      the jury, that concludes this portion of the trial.
11
      You now have the evidence, the Court's instructions
12
      and the arguments before you. You may retire to the
13
      jury room. Once you are assembled there together,
     you may begin your deliberations.
14
                       The original of the Court's
15
16
      instructions, which will be given to the Presiding
17
      Juror, are the one that has blue back attached and
18
      has my signature on it. You may retire to the jury
19
      room.
20
                       (Jury retired for deliberations.)
                       THE COURT: All right. We're off
21
22
      the record outside the presence of the injury.
23
                       MR. HAMILTON: The Defense in
24
     closing played a tape of Samantha Bean and I
```

objected to it not being in evidence and so at the

25

```
1
      very least I want to be sure -- I'm not asking for a
     mistrial, but I want to be clear that that is not in
2
3
      evidence. And that it doesn't go back to the jury
4
      under any circumstance. I mean, I don't know if
      there's an appropriate instruction that should be
5
 6
      given to the jury. There's nothing we can do now --
 7
      that was not in evidence. It was completely
8
      inappropriate --
                       (Off-the-record discussion.)
9
10
                       (Proceedings in recess awaiting
                  jury verdict.)
11
12
                       (Jury seated.)
13
                       THE COURT: All right.
                                               Have a
14
      seat, please.
15
                       Ladies and gentlemen, have you
16
      reached a verdict?
17
                       FOREPERSON: Yes, sir.
18
                       THE COURT: All right.
                                               If you will
19
     please hand the verdict form to Pat.
20
                       (Foreperson complied.)
                       THE COURT: The verdict appears to
21
22
     be an 11-to-1 verdict.
23
                       The answer to Ouestion No. 1 -- the
24
      jury's answers are: As to No. 1, yes; No. 2, yes;
25
     No. 3, yes; No. 4, no; No. 5, no; No. 6, no.
```

```
1
                       The jury's answers to Question
             As to No. 1, 97; as to No. 2, 2; as to
2
     No. 2:
3
     No. 3, 1. And there are dashes in 4, 5 and 6.
                       Answer to Question No. 3: No. 1,
4
     yes; No. 2, yes; No. 3, yes; No. 4, no; No. 5, no;
5
 6
     No. 6, no; No. 7, no.
 7
                       Question No. 4: No. 1, 97;
8
     No. 2, 2; No. 3, 1. And the balance of 4 through 7
9
     have a dash.
10
                       Question No. 5: As to 1, loss of
     companionship and society sustained in the past:
11
12
     One million dollars; as to loss of society in the
      future: Two million dollars.
13
                       As to No. 2, mental anguish
14
      sustained in the past: Four million dollars.
                                                      As to
15
16
     mental anguish sustained in the future: Four
     million dollars.
17
18
                       Question No. 6: As to No. 1:
     million dollars.
19
20
                       Question No. 7, as to No. 1, loss
     of companionship and society sustained in the past:
21
22
      $500,000 as to each named individual.
23
                       Loss of companionship and society
24
      and the reasonable probability will be sustained in
     the future, as to each party: One million dollars.
25
```

1 Mental anguish sustained in the Two million dollars. 2 past as to each party: 3 Mental anguish sustained in the future as to each party: Two million dollars. 4 Does either side wish to have the 5 6 jury polled? 7 MR. ROSENBERG: No, Your Honor. 8 MR. HAMILTON: No. 9 THE COURT: All right. Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, with the acceptance of your 10 11 verdict by this Court, you are now free from the 12 instructions that I have previously given you. You 13 can talk about this case with anybody you want to talk with. 14 I would like, if you wouldn't mind, 15 16 to just remain a moment so I can talk to you about 17 what we can do to improve jury service in our 18 county. 19 I know the attorneys might wish to 20 speak with you. I will tell you this, that some of the best lessons I ever learned about trying 21 22 lawsuits, I gained from jurors' observations of my 23 performance. But I want to tell you this, that you 24 don't have to stay to talk to them. You don't have to talk to me. You can keep right on walking. 25

if you would be willing to do that, I would appreciate it. Please leave your badges and your notebooks in the jury room. You can do one of two things with your notes, if you wish. You may take your notes with you or you may leave them with us and we will shred them this afternoon. So that's your choice. And with my thanks for your work in a very difficult case and my special thanks for your kindness and your willingness to be prompt and to work long days, you have my very, very sincere thanks. You're free to go to the jury room. (Jury retired and released.) (Proceedings concluded.) 

1	THE STATE OF TEXAS :
2	COUNTY OF BRAZOS :
3	
4	I, FELIX THOMPSON, Official Court Reporter in and for the 361st District Court of Brazos County, Texas, do hereby certify that the above and
5	foregoing contains a true and correct transcription of all portions of evidence and other proceedings
6	requested in writing by counsel for the parties to
7	<pre>be included in this volume of the Reporter's Record, in the above-styled and numbered cause, all of which occurred in open Court or in Chambers and were</pre>
8	reported by me.
9	
10	I further certify that this Reporter's Record of the proceedings truly and correctly
11	reflects the exhibits, if any, admitted by the respective parties.
12	
13	I further certify that the total cost for the preparation of this Reporter's Record is
14	<pre>\$TBD and was paid or will be paid by the Defendants.</pre>
15	
16	WITNESS MY OFFICIAL HAND on this the 23rd day of November, 2015.
17	
18	/ /
19	/s/ Felix Thompson FELIX THOMPSON, CSR No. 1076
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