

1 **TAPED TRANSCRIPT OF JENNIFER CONAWAY**
2 **INTERVIEW CONDUCTED BY SERGEANT JOHN ALLEN AND**
3 **CORPORAL WILLIAM "ERIC" EDWARDS**
4 **CASE AGENT – CORPORAL YURI MELICH**
5 **CASE NUMBER – 08-74777**
6 **RECORDED SEPTEMBER 16, 2009**
7 **JA – SERGEANT JOHN ALLEN**
8 **EE – CORPORAL WILLIAM "ERIC" EDWARDS**
9 **JC – MS. JENNIFER CONAWAY**

10 **EE:** It's 11:16 a.m., on 9/16/2009. Corporal Eric Edwards, Orange County Sheriff's
11 Office Homicide, in a conference room, speaking with, can you state your name
12 for me please ma'am?

13 **JC:** Jennifer Lynn Conaway.

14 **EE:** Also in the room is Sergeant?

15 **JA:** John Allen.

16 **EE:** And Jennifer, you and your mother, Carol, have come forward with some
17 additional information regarding the Anthony case, and the fact that you assisted
18 Texas Equusearch uh, twice?

19 **JC:** Yes sir.

20 **EE:** With, in, in their efforts to locate uh, Caylee Anthony. Is that correct?

21 **JC:** Yes sir.

22 **EE:** Can you tell me about the first time that you uh, that you responded to Orlando
23 just to assist? Do you remember that date?

24 **JC:** No sir. It had to be around the 13th of August.

25 **EE:** Okay. Can you tell me about that?

1 **JC:** Uhm, well we traveled out there from Deltona. Uhm, met in a industrial
2 warehouse. Uh, parked the truck. And we were put aside for about an hour an a
3 half. Got a phone call. Met with a gentleman in a tent. They arm banded us,
4 gave us a map, sent us to the school. Uhm, we traveled over to the school.
5 When we arrived at the school, the gate where we arrived at the school the gate
6 where we were supposed to parked was locked. Uhm, there was an opening
7 going out into a service road. That's where they told us we were going to search.
8 We parked the trailer, unloaded the horses and waited for everyone to come out
9 of the woods. Uhm, there was a gentleman there on a milk crate that said,
10 "They'll be right out to get you." So we proceeded to warm the horses up, uhm,
11 up and down the road, headed back towards Suburban. We, there was no place
12 to ride except for in the grass. We were on the edge of the road. We walked all
13 the way back, almost to Suburban, to warm the horses up. Uhm, when we came
14 back, we were headed back from the water area, because as my mom and I
15 walked down there, she said, "Do you think that they've searched this down
16 here?" Because you could actually get in there, but it was deep. And I said,
17 "Well maybe. I don't know. They said that they needed horses that would travel
18 into the water." And she said, "Well, we'll ask when we get back." So...

19 **EE:** When you say it was deep, you mean the area was deep, or the, or there's water
20 that was deep?

21 **JC:** The water that, that was there was deep.

22 **EE:** You could actually visually see water...

23 **JC:** Yes sir, abs....

24 **EE:** ...from the roadway?
25

1 **JC:** Yes, you could see the water. You could see the wa...when the wind blew you
2 could see the water roll. That's how deep it was. But you couldn't tell how uh,
3 physically deep it was because you didn't know how far the road was built up
4 around it.

5 **EE:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

6 **JC:** So we had two horses that would actually go in there. Uhm, so we came back
7 towards the school. And about that time the officer emerged with all the uhm,
8 people that were dressed in green that were with him, and some other people.
9 And uhm, they said, "We're going to take a break." They unlocked the gate to
10 the school. We went into the school property, and then back towards Suburban
11 again. There's a field inside the fence where we went in and met underneath a
12 tree. Well our horses still had an edge on them from being on the trailer all that
13 time. So they were all dismounted and sitting in the grass, and we kept walking.
14 So we were on school property, and walked back towards Suburban along that
15 chain link fence again, and we're looking as well. The fence is probably eight
16 foot high.

17 **EE:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

18 **JC:** You can't really go anywhere except for on the property. And as we walked, you
19 know you could, you could see that the ground was getting wetter and uh, you
20 could see through the fence and see that everything was grown up, but there
21 was water underneath of it. And uhm, when we came back to the tree, uh, the
22 gentleman that was leading us, uhm....

23 **EE:** You described him as a, can you describe him again for me?
24
25

1 **JC:** Uhm, a very heavy, black man. Big, broad shoulders. Uhm, was, was riding a
2 big, bay horse with, that was very heavy as well. Uhm, he was dressed in your
3 uniforms.

4 **EE:** Okay.

5 **JC:** Ball cap on with the Sheriff's Department logo on it. Uhm, he was driving an F-
6 250 pick-up truck I believe it was, with a silver trailer, pulling his horse.

7 **EE:** So he was leading the search that you were a part of?

8 **JC:** Yes sir.

9 **EE:** Okay.

10 **JC:** He, actually there were two groups out there. He was uh, in, in charge of one
11 group. And then there was a gentleman that was I guess part of the posse. He
12 had the breast collar on with the logo and that on it. He was leading another
13 group, and they, the two groups came together to meet up with us.

14 **EE:** Okay.

15 **JC:** So uhm, they were underneath the tree. And that's when Mom first approached
16 them and said, you know, "Are we going to go this way? You know, have you
17 searched over there?" And he said, no, that's already been searched, or
18 someone's going to search it. Uh, something along those lines. She was
19 speaking directly to him. I just heard him say, "Are you guys together?" And
20 Mom said, "Yeah (affirmative). We have horses that will go in water. So if you
21 need us we'll go that way." And he said, "No, we're going to go back down the
22 service road that we just came off of." So they were uh, just stayed under the
23 tree for about fifteen or twenty minutes, and then we separated. And the posse,
24 the people in the green, loaded up, and they went to the park. Uhm...

25 **EE:** Blanchard Park?

1 **JC:** Yes sir. They went to Blanchard Park. And Mom said uhm, "You know, we can
2 go to Blanchard Park if you like." He said, "No, that's no place for you guys.
3 There's too many kites, and kids, and bikes, and things like that. We're going to
4 stay here. We're going to send the trained horses to the park." And Mom said,
5 "Okay." So everybody separated. They all loaded up. The posse loaded up and
6 they left, and the rest of us went back into the woods. And we didn't go very far
7 before someone called for a lunch break. I'll tell you how far we went. There
8 was a stream that ran through and across the service road down there. We
9 went, we road into the stream, and about five hundred feet down the stream.
10 And someone called on the radio, on someone's radio, and they called us back.
11 And when we came back we loaded up into the trailers and went back to the
12 industrial park.

13 **EE:** So you only deployed that one time?

14 **JC:** From that section. And then we came back. Everybody ate lunch. And then
15 they took us to another section of the industrial park. Uh, the same set up. Not a
16 whole lot of street signs; warehousing and things.

17 **EE:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

18 **JC:** And we parked there. Uhm, and from there we went to the back side of it where
19 there were retention ponds. Uhm, the fields weren't mowed.

20 **EE:** So you never went back to that area by the school?

21 **JC:** No. That's as far as we went in.

22 **EE:** Knowing what you know now, with everything on television, and knowing where
23 we did the final recovery, is that in the same area that you and your mother
24 were...

25 **JC:** Yes.

1 **EE:** ...walking your horses....

2 **JC:** Yes, is, absolutely.

3 **EE:** ...trying to walk them out, exercise them?

4 **JC:** Exactly.

5 **EE:** Uhm, now, while you were there were, did you ever see an organized search of
6 that area? Were you ever all directed to go in there, or were any other horses in
7 there?

8 **JC:** No sir.

9 **EE:** No? So you, as far as your, as far as your knowledge, and what you observed
10 that day, you don't know of a search actually going in that area?

11 **JC:** No.

12 **EE:** But you did see standing water?

13 **JC:** Yes.

14 **EE:** Unknown how deep?

15 **JC:** Unknown how deep, correct. You could get in on horseback. Louie met, there's
16 stumps and things they can lay in place like that, but being a human you couldn't
17 walk back in there.

18 **EE:** Okay.

19 **JC:** Because uh, it, it, it was just, you could see the size of a tree. You can
20 guesstimate how, you know, how old it is, how long it's been there, you know.
21 So the water had to be if not waist deep, a little higher. So human, you couldn't
22 walk in there, but you could get the horses down in there to walk around.

23 **EE:** Now you were...

24 **JC:** Not to find anything.

25 **EE:** Uh, that's, well that was going to be my next question.

1 **JC:** Yeah (affirmative).
2 **EE:** What would, if you'd of had gone in there, have you done that in the past...
3 **JC:** Yes.
4 **EE:** ...where you've located things in the water, or yeah (affirmative), how difficult
5 would it...
6 **JC:** Not water, stand, but little mud with standing water over it for L...Lake County
7 and different things.
8 **EE:** So this isn't the case? It's not like...
9 **JC:** No.
10 **EE:** ...there was a spot of water here, and a spot of water there?
11 **JC:** No.
12 **EE:** It was actually....
13 **JC:** Full.
14 **EE:** Okay.
15 **JA:** How thick was the brush?
16 **JC:** Above, if I was on horseback...
17 **JA:** Uh-hum (affirmative).
18 **JC:** ...above my head, you would have limbs and things. But other than that, it was
19 just water. You could see in where the water came up and then the limbs started.
20 So brush, there wasn't any.
21 **JA:** Okay.
22 **EE:** At the water point?
23 **JC:** Right.
24 **EE:** So farther back away from the water point? Between the water point and the
25 road that the brush started there? I'm just trying to get a, a visual image.

1 **JC:** It was moved.

2 **EE:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

3 **JC:** Where you could uh, you could look in and see the brown water. So it was

4 moved right to the edge of the water. But everything else had died off from being

5 under water.

6 **EE:** Okay.

7 **JC:** So you had water and then tree limbs themselves.

8 **JA:** Uh-hum (affirmative). Did you ever see an area where there were vines and stuff

9 growing all over, or was that, or were you...

10 **JC:** Closer to the fence...

11 **JA:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

12 **JC:** ...there were vines.

13 **JA:** That, when you say closer to the fence, closer to a wood fence, or chain link

14 fence, or...

15 **JC:** A chain link fence.

16 **JA:** Okay, a chain link fence? Okay.

17 **JC:** Yes sir. Because we came from the chain link (inaudible).

18 **JA:** The chain link fence is on both sides of the road?

19 **JC:** Yes sir.

20 **JA:** Both the north and the south side of the road? Okay. Uhm, and you said there

21 were, uh, closer to the fence you could see vines growing?

22 **JC:** Yes sir.

23 **JA:** Were they low to the ground, high up off the ground? How thick was the, how

24 thick was uh, were the vines and the brush close to the ground uhm, in those

25 areas where you could see it?

1 **JC:** Not very.

2 **JA:** Okay.

3 **JC:** Because you could look in and see the trees.

4 **JA:** Okay.

5 **JC:** But the vines went from the fence, you could see them growing on the fence, and
6 then up, into the trees.

7 **JA:** Okay.

8 **EE:** When you, when you uh, the two times, the second time you came back to help
9 Texas Equusearch, when was that...

10 **JC:** That was the...

11 **EE:** ...approximately.

12 **JC:** ...weekend of November the 7th.

13 **EE:** And did y'all, you brought, you brought your horses?

14 **JC:** Yes sir.

15 **EE:** You and your mom again?

16 **JC:** Yes sir. And then we, we brought two other friends with us as well.

17 **EE:** Okay. Did y'all, were y'all ever dispatched back to that Suburban Drive area?

18 **JC:** No.

19 **EE:** Okay. Did y'all ever search that Suburban Drive area independently of....

20 **JC:** No.

21 **EE:** ...of...no? Not with Texas Equusearch and not without?

22 **JC:** No sir.

23 **EE:** Just that, just that one day? Now, when you guys got there did you have to fill
24 out sheets, and forms, and show your i.d. (identification), and things of that...

25 **JC:** Yes.

1 **EE:** ...both times?
2 **JC:** Yes sir.
3 **EE:** Okay, so your names would be on a log of some kind?
4 **JC:** Yes sir.
5 **EE:** Alright. I can't think of anything else. Can you?
6 **JC:** Uh, no, except for the second time they sent us to the park.
7 **EE:** Blanchard Park?
8 **JC:** Yeah (affirmative).
9 **JA:** Okay.
10 **JC:** Where the Sheriff's Department told us we had no reason to be there, because
11 you know, we weren't trained to be in that area.
12 **EE:** Around....
13 **JC:** But...
14 **EE:** ...people?
15 **JC:** Yeah (affirmative). Yeah (affirmative), but that's where they sent us the second
16 time. So we spent the entire day trail riding in the park. It was a waste of time. It
17 really was.
18 **EE:** It wasn't a search, it was more of a ride?
19 **JC:** Yeah (affirmative), is exactly what it...
20 **EE:** That's what your mom said as well.
21 **JC:** It's exactly what it was.
22 **EE:** Okay. Well thank you for your help.
23 **JC:** Well you're very welcome.
24 **EE:** Can you raise your right hand for me? Do you swear the information you gave
25 today is true?

1 **JC:** Yes sir.

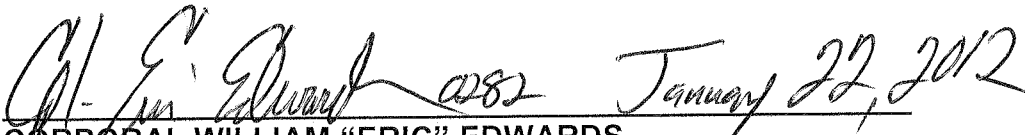
2 **EE:** And is it freely given?

3 **JC:** Yes sir, it is.

4 **EE:** Okay, and it's approximately 11:26 a.m., the same individuals in the room, the
5 same date.

6 **End of recorded statement.**

7 **This transcript has been reviewed for accuracy.**

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10 **CORPORAL WILLIAM "ERIC" EDWARDS**
11 **OCSO DEPUTY SHERIFF**

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