

1. Transcript of Proceedings for *Lightbourne v. State*, Case No. 81-170-CF (electronic submission); Transcript Excerpt, Testimony of Dr. Mark Dershwitz.

1 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
2 IN AND FOR MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA
3 CASE NO.: 81-170-CF
4
5 STATE OF FLORIDA
6 vs.
7 IAN DECO LIGHTBOURNE,
8 Defendant.
9 /
10 VOLUME IV, PAGES 483-620
11 PROCEEDINGS: Evidentiary Hearing
concerning lethal injection
(Diaz issue)
12 BEFORE: Honorable Carven D. Angel
Circuit Judge
13 Fifth Judicial Circuit
In and For Marion County, Florida
14 REPORTED BY: Noelani J. Fehr
15 Stenographic Court Reporter
Notary Public
16 State of Florida at Large
17 DATE AND TIME: May 21, 2007; 2:15-5:10 p.m.
18 PLACE: Marion County Judicial Center
Court Room 3A
19 110 N.W. 1st Avenue
Ocala, Florida 34475
20 APPEARANCES: SUZANNE KEFFER, Esq., and
21 ANNA-LIISA JOSELOFF, Esq., and
ROSEANNE ECKERT, Esq., and
22 NEAL A. DUPREE, Esq., and
CAROLINE KRAVATH, Esq.
23 Capital Collateral Regional Counsel
101 N.E. 3rd Avenue, Suite 400
24 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
Attorneys for Defendant
25

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1 APPEARANCES: KENNETH S. NUNNELLEY, A.A.G., and
2 BARBARA C. DAVIS, A.A.G., and
3 CAROLYN SNURKOWSKI, A.A.G.
4 Office of the Attorney General
444 Seabreeze Blvd., 5th Floor
Daytona Beach, Florida 32118
Attorneys for State
5
6 ROCK HOOKER, A.S.A.
State Attorney's Office
19 N. Pine Street
Ocala, FL 34475
7 Attorney for State
8
9 MAXIMILLIAN J. CHANGUS, Esq.
Office of General Counsel
Florida Department Of Corrections
2601 Blair Stone Road
10 Tallahassee, FL 34399-2500
Attorney for Department of Corrections

11 ALSO PRESENT: Gail Watson, Judicial Assistant
12 Robert McLean, Law Clerk
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1 AFTERNOON SESSION
2 May 21, 2007 2:15 p.m.
3 (Thereupon, the Honorable Judge Carven D. Angel entered the
4 courtroom and the following proceedings were had:)
5 THE COURT: Okay. We're resuming our

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6 hearing. Let's call the next witness.
7 MR. NUNNELLEY: Your Honor, pursuant to
8 agreement, the State calls Dr. Mark Dershwitz out
9 of order.
10 THE COURT: Okay.
11 MARK DERSHWITZ,
12 having been produced and first duly sworn by the Clerk of
13 the Court as a witness on behalf of the State, was
14 examined and testified as follows:
15 THE WITNESS: I do.
16 DIRECT EXAMINATION
17 BY MR. NUNNELLEY:
18 Q State your name, if you would, sir?
19 A Mark Dershwitz.
20 Q How are you employed, sir?
21 A I work for the University of Massachusetts Medical
22 School and UMass Memorial Health Care.
23 Q What is your educational background, sir?
24 A I have a bachelor's degree in chemistry, a medical
25 degree, and a Ph.D. in pharmacology.

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1 MR. NUNNELLEY: May I approach, your Honor?
2 THE COURT: Sure.
3 BY MR. NUNNELLEY:
4 Q Dr. Dershwitz, I am showing you what is marked as
5 State's Exhibit 2 for identification. And for the record,
6 that would be the CV of Dr. Dershwitz that was previously
7 provided to opposing counsel.
8 Do you recognize that document, sir?

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9 A Yes.
10 Q What do you recognize that document to be?
11 A That's the CV that I prepared on February 5th,
12 2007.
13 Q Does the document fairly and accurately reflect
14 your training, education, and professional experience?
15 A Yes.
16 MR. NUNNELLEY: I would offer the CV into
17 evidence at this time, your Honor.
18 MR. DUPREE: I don't have an objection, I
19 just want to find out, if I could ask a question,
20 whether or not it's updated. He said this was of
21 February of 2007, so since February of 2007 if
22 there's any additions to that CV?
23 THE WITNESS: There are none.
24 MR. DUPREE: Then I have no objection. No
25 objection, Judge.

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1 THE COURT: Admitted.
2 (Thereupon, the above-referred-to item was
3 marked for identification as State's Exhibit
4 Number 2 and was received in evidence.)
5 BY MR. NUNNELLEY:
6 Q Dr. Dershwitz, you're an anesthesiologist; is that
7 correct?
8 A Yes.
9 Q If you could, sir, tell us, I guess maybe in fifty
10 words or less, what an anesthesiologist does?

11 A Many lay people think that anesthesiologists just
12 put people to sleep; but, in fact, we are in charge of the
13 entire peri-operative care of the patient. So we do
14 pre-operative evaluations, we take care of the patients in
15 the operating room, and then we take care of the patients
16 afterward, either in the recovery room or the Intensive Care
17 Unit. And many anesthesiologists also are intensive care
18 physicians and or pain management physicians.

19 Q Okay. Are you familiar with the drug from your
20 work as an anesthesiologist known as sodium thiopental?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Does that drug have another name?

23 A Well, there's a trade name, Pentothal sodium, and
24 the official name is actually thiopental sodium.

25 Q Okay. Are you also familiar with the drug known

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1 as pancuronium bromide?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Does that drug also have a trade name that's used
4 with it, or to refer to it?

5 A Yes, the trade name Pavulon.

6 Q And I'm assuming you're also familiar with the
7 drug -- with potassium chloride?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Does -- that probably does not have a trade name,
10 does it?

11 A Not that I'm aware of.

12 Q Okay. Do you use, or have you used in the past,
13 those three drugs in your practice as an anesthesiologist?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Are you familiar with the effects of these three
16 drugs on a human being?

17 A Yes.

18 Q What is the use of, Dr. Dershwitz, thiopental
19 sodium?

20 A Typically, in an anesthetic it would be used as
21 the induction agent, which means that the medication is
22 given intravenously to put the patient to sleep. It is
23 possible, although very unusual, to give further doses of
24 thiopental to keep the patient asleep. But far more often
25 it's just used to put the patient to sleep.

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1 Q And when you're using thiopental sodium to put the
2 patient to sleep what is the next step that an
3 anesthesiologist will take in that operative process?

4 MR. DUPREE: Your Honor, I apologize for
5 interrupting. I've got an objection to predicate
6 at this point in time, because we have not
7 established this man's expertise. The State has
8 not tried to qualify him as an expert, and he's
9 going on about drugs and what their effects are.
10 I think we need to establish a predicate as to
11 what his expertise would be.

12 BY MR. NUNNELLEY:

13 Q I'll go back into it. Dr. Dershwitz, how long
14 have you been practicing as an anesthesiologist?

15 A Since 1986.

16 Q And in connection with your training as an
17 anesthesiologist have you had occasion to use the drug
18 thiopental sodium?

19 A Yes, many times.

20 Q In connection with your work as an
21 anesthesiologist have you had occasion to use the drug
22 pancuronium bromide?

23 A Yes.

24 Q In connection with your work as an
25 anesthesiologist since 1986, was it?

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1 A Yes.

2 Q Have you had occasion to use the drug potassium
3 chloride?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Are you a board certified anesthesiologist?

6 A Yes.

7 Q How long have you been a board certified
8 anesthesiologist?

9 A I was first board certified in 1987, and I
10 voluntarily recertified in 2005.

11 Q And you are a faculty member of the University of
12 Massachusetts?

13 A Yes.

14 Q What do you teach at the University of
15 Massachusetts?

16 A I have two primary teaching responsibilities. I'm
17 responsible for the educational program for our residents
18 who are in training to be anesthesiologists. I'm also the

19 course co-director of the second year medical pharmacology
20 course that's given to all of the medical students.

21 Q In addition to your medical degree as an
22 anesthesiologist you also have a Ph.D. in pharmacology; is
23 that correct?

24 A Yes.

25 MR. NUNNELLEY: Your Honor, I would offer the

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1 witness as an expert in the field of
2 anesthesiology at this time.

3 MR. DUPREE: I'm sorry, in the field of what?

4 MR. NUNNELLEY: Anesthesiology.

5 MR. DUPREE: Is that it? If it's as to
6 anesthesiology, I have no objection, your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Proceed.

8 MR. DUPREE: Thank you.

9 MR. NUNNELLEY: Also pharmacology, your
10 Honor, given his training, education, and
11 experience. I misspoke.

12 MR. DUPREE: Your Honor, I would object to
13 predicate on that -- on those grounds.

14 THE COURT: Do you want to voir dire the
15 witness?

16 MR. DUPREE: Thank you, Judge.

17 MR. NUNNELLEY: Your Honor, again, I renew my
18 objection to Mr. -- I know the Court's ruled. I
19 don't want to call cat the judge's rule, but
20 again, I renew my objection to Mr. Dupree acting

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21 both as an advocate and a witness. It's a clear
22 violation of the ethical rules.

23 MR. DUPREE: Whoa, whoa.

24 THE COURT: I overrule the objection. Go
25 ahead.

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1 MR. DUPREE: Judge, I've got take an
2 exception to being called non-ethical. I mean,
3 that's -- that's a little bit much, I think.

4 VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION

5 BY MR. DUPREE:

6 Q Sir, I just want go over your educational
7 background with you a little bit. Can you tell me which
8 college you graduated from?

9 A I have a bachelor's degree in chemistry from
10 Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan.

11 Q And where did you go to medical school?

12 A Northwestern University in Chicago.

13 Q And you became a doctor there?

14 A I received my medical degree from Northwestern, as
15 well as my Ph.D. in pharmacology.

16 Q And where did you train after that?

17 A I did an internship at the Carney Hospital in
18 Boston. I did a residency in anesthesiology at Mass General
19 Hospital in Boston. And I did a research fellowship also
20 with the Department of Anesthesiology in Mass General in
21 Boston.

22 Q Okay. Are you a pathologist, sir?

23 A No. I am a toxicologist, however, though.

24 Q Do you do forensic toxicology?

25 A As a consultant, yes.

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1 Q Is that part of your expertise?

2 A Yes.

3 Q And you -- but you did not have to do any
4 pathology?

5 A I do not practice pathology, but I often consult
6 for many different groups as a toxicologist.

7 Q Have you ever been declared an expert in any court
8 of law as a forensic pathologist?

9 A Not as a forensic pathologist but as a
10 toxicologist.

11 MR. DUPREE: Thank you, your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Proceed.

13 MR. NUNNELLEY: Your Honor, for the record, I
14 assume since I have heard no further objection Mr.
15 Dupree has none.

16 DIRECT EXAMINATION

17 BY MR. NUNNELLEY:

18 Q Now, Dr. Dershwitz, you were talking about
19 thiopental sodium being the induction agent in anesthesia,
20 correct?

21 A It is one of the induction agents that can be
22 used.

23 Q And when you say an induction agent, what does
24 that mean? What is the next step, if you will?

25 A Typically, after the patient is rendered

1 unconscious with thiopental other medications are given to
2 keep the patient asleep for the duration of the surgery.

3 Q would those be either intravenous medications or
4 inhaled medications?

5 A usually it's a combination of both.

6 Q Okay. what is the usage of pancuronium bromide in
7 surgery?

8 A It's a paralytic agent that by paralyzing the
9 skeletal muscles makes it easier for the surgeon to operate
10 in cases where such muscle relaxation is advantageous.

11 Q Okay. And what would be the use of potassium
12 chloride?

13 A well, potassium chloride is a salt, and it is a
14 common component of the intravenous fluids that we use.

15 Q Okay. What is the typical induction dose of
16 thiopental sodium?

17 A In an eighty kilogram person it would be typically
18 around three hundred to four hundred milligrams.

19 Q Have you had occasion, Dr. Dershwitz, to review
20 the August 16th, 2006, protocols for carrying out lethal
21 injection that are -- were produced by the Department -- the
22 Florida Department Of Corrections?

23 A Yes.

24 MR. NUNNELLEY: May I approach, your Honor?

25 THE COURT: Sure.

1 BY MR. NUNNELLEY:

2 Q Dr. Dershwitz, I am showing you what is marked as
3 Joint Exhibit 1. I would ask you to take a look at that
4 document and tell us if you recognize it, sir?

5 A I have read it before.

6 Q Does that document set out the dose of thiopental
7 sodium that is used in an execution?

8 A Yes, it does.

9 Q What dose of thiopental sodium does the August 16,
10 2006 protocols set out?

11 A Five thousand milligrams, or five grams.

12 Q How does a five gram dosage of thiopental sodium
13 compare to the normal induction used of thiopental sodium in
14 surgery?

15 A Well, it's a huge overdose.

16 Q Have you also -- let me ask you, also, sir, in the
17 proto -- the protocol also sets out the dosage of
18 pancuronium bromide that is used in an execution by lethal
19 injection in Florida, doesn't it?

20 A Yes.

21 Q And what dosage does it set out for pancuronium
22 bromide?

23 A One hundred milligrams.

24 Q And how does that dose compare to the typical
25 dosage employed in surgery?

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1 A That's a huge overdose.

2 Q Does the August 16, 2006 protocol set out a dosage
3 of potassium chloride to be used in carrying out an
4 execution by lethal injection?

5 A Yes.

6 Q What dosage does the protocol set out?

7 A Two hundred and forty milliequivalents.

8 Q And how does that dosage compare to a typical
9 dosage used in medical practice, or in surgery, of potassium
10 chloride?

11 A Well, typically we don't think of giving potassium
12 chloride as a dose, but our most commonly used intravenous
13 fluid has potassium chloride in a concentration of four
14 milliequivalents per liter. So every time the patient gets
15 a liter of fluid the patient gets four milliequivalents of
16 potassium chloride.

17 Q And how long would that -- over how long a period
18 of time would that liter be administered?

19 A Well, that varies tremendously from case to case,
20 depending on how much the blood loss is, but it could be as
21 rapidly as every, you know, five to ten minutes, or slower
22 over an hour or two.

23 Q What would be the effect of a dose of two hundred
24 and forty milliequivalents of potassium chloride on a human
25 being?

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1 A If given rapidly it should stop electrical
2 activity in the heart.

3 Q What would be the effect of a dosage of five grams
4 of thiopental sodium on a human being?

5 A It's lethal by two different mechanisms. It will
6 cause the person to stop breathing, and it will also stop or
7 cause the circulation to decrease to such a degree that no
8 meaningful amount of circulation persists.

9 Q And the same question for the dosage of
10 pancuronium bromide, what would be the effect of that dosage
11 on a human being?

12 A It will paralyze all the skeletal muscles in the
13 body.

14 Q Do you have a judgment as to how long that
15 paralysis of the skeletal muscles will last?

16 A After a dose of one hundred milligrams, many, many
17 hours.

18 Q Okay. And do you have a judgment as to how long a
19 person who had received five grams, five thousand
20 milligrams, of thiopental sodium would remain unconscious,
21 assuming they did not die?

22 A And that's a very large assumption, because it
23 would take extraordinary efforts to keep their circulation
24 going. But if they maintained circulation and ventilation
25 the average eighty kilogram person given five thousand

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1 milligrams of thiopental would sleep for about fourteen
2 hours.

3 MR. NUNNELLEY: May I approach, your Honor?

4 THE COURT: Sure.

5 BY MR. NUNNELLEY:

6 Q Dr. Dershwitz, I'm showing you what is marked as

7 Joint Exhibit 2, and ask you if you would review that
8 document and tell us if you recognize it, sir?

9 A Yes.

10 Q What do you recognize that document to be?

11 A That is a revised lethal injection protocol that
12 is dated May 9th, 2007.

13 Q Let me ask you this first of all, have the dosages
14 of drugs that are employed or set out in the two protocols,
15 the August 16th, 2006 protocol and the May 9, 2007 protocol,
16 changed?

17 A No.

18 Q Has the method of the delivery of those drugs
19 changed?

20 A No.

21 Q Based on a comparison of the two protocols, the
22 May 9, 2007 and the August 16, 2006 protocols, do you have a
23 judgment as to whether the May 9, 2007 protocols have added
24 safeguards beyond those found in the August 16, 2006
25 protocols?

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1 MR. DUPREE: I want to object. It's beyond
2 the scope of his expertise.

3 THE COURT: Overruled. You may answer.

4 THE WITNESS: The primary difference is the
5 inclusion of a pause during which the personnel
6 will assess the inmate for the presence or absence
7 of unconsciousness.

8 BY MR. NUNNELLEY:

9 Q Do you feel that to be an improvement?

10 A Well, I think an improvement is not a, you know,
11 medical term, but it is a significant change.

12 Q Doctor, let me -- let me ask you this, in the
13 course of -- in your work as an anesthesiologist have you
14 had occasion, or do you have the occasion, to administer
15 pancuronium bromide or a similar paralytic drug in close
16 succession to the administration of an anesthetic agent?

17 A Yes, often.

18 Q Can you -- and the explanation may be a little bit
19 beyond what we need here, but what would be the circumstance
20 when you as an anesthesiologist in your care of a patient
21 would administer the paralytic drug quickly, rapidly, after
22 having administered the anesthetic?

23 A In most anesthetics where we induce anesthesia
24 with an IV drug and then paralyze the patient, the
25 anesthesiologist pauses after the induction agent and

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1 confirms that the patient is unconscious before giving the
2 paralytic drug.

3 However, there's a technique called rapid sequence
4 induction, whereby the paralytic drug is given immediately
5 after the hypnotic drug in order to cause the patient to be
6 become paralyzed and permit the insertion of a breathing
7 tube as rapidly as possible.

8 And the scenario in which we perform this is when
9 the anesthesiologist is concerned that the patient is at
10 risk for aspiration, meaning stomach contents coming up the
11 esophagus from the stomach and then going down the trachea

12 into the lungs, which can be catastrophic. So when we have
13 a patient who is at risk for aspiration we perform such a
14 rapid sequence induction.

15 Q Okay. Dr. Dershwitz, I asked you earlier about
16 the -- about how long a person would remain unconscious
17 after having received various doses of sodium -- thiopental
18 sodium. Have you prepared any charts or graphs that will
19 help elaborate upon your testimony?

20 A Yes.

21 MR. NUNNELLEY: We showed these to you all
22 last Thursday. May I approach, your Honor?

23 THE COURT: Sure.

24 BY MR. NUNNELLEY:

25 Q And Dr. Dershwitz, I'm showing you exhibits that

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1 are marked as State's Exhibits 3, 4 and 5 for
2 identification, and ask you if you would review those
3 documents, sir.

4 A Yes, I drew them.

5 Q Starting the with State -- with exhibit --

6 MR. NUNNELLEY: Well, I want to offer them at
7 this time, your Honor.

8 MR. CHANGUS: Any objection?

9 MR. DUPREE: No, your Honor.

10 THE COURT: Admitted.

11 (Thereupon, the above-referred to items were
12 marked for identification as State's Exhibit
13 Numbers 3, 4, and 5 and were received in
14 evidence.)

15 BY MR. NUNNELLEY:

16 Q And Dr. Dershwitz, we have blown that chart up for
17 your -- for your use. Can you -- this is State's Exhibit 3.
18 Can you explain to Judge Angel what we are showing in
19 State's Exhibit 3? It's the red button, supposedly.

20 A Okay. This is what we call a pharmacokinetic
21 model that's based on a certain number of assumptions. And
22 in order to create this graph, which predicts the blood
23 concentration of thiopental on the Y Axis, note that that's
24 a logarithmic scale, and time following the completion of
25 the injection on the X Axis, and note that that's also a

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1 logarithmic scale.

2 And so I assumed that the patient was eighty
3 kilograms in size, was otherwise metabolically normal, and
4 that the thiopental five thousand milligrams was
5 administered over a period of 2.5 minutes.

6 And then this curve right here depicts how the
7 thiopental concentration will decline as a function of time
8 during the first twenty minutes following completion of the
9 administration of the drug.

10 Q And at the -- okay. At the twenty minute mark,
11 and this is in micro -- micrograms per milliliter --

12 A Correct.

13 Q -- correct? What would be the drug concentration
14 when you run this out to the twenty minute mark?

15 A The twenty minutes, the thiopental concentration
16 is calculated to be 54.7 micrograms per milliliter.

17 Q Is that a concentration level that is consistent
18 or inconsistent with consciousness?

19 A At that concentration a person will have a
20 .0000094 percent chance of being conscious.

21 Q Okay. Thank you, sir. Now, if you would turn to
22 State's Exhibit 4.

23 A (Complies.)

24 Q State's Exhibit 4 seems to -- well, explain
25 State's Exhibit 4 for us, if you would, sir?

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1 A Okay. This is a graph that one could use to
2 determine the probability of consciousness as a function of
3 the concentration of thiopental in the blood. And so at low
4 thiopental concentrations, let's say below five micrograms
5 per mill, there's a high probability of being conscious.

6 The fifty percent mark is a concentration of
7 around seven, so at seven micrograms per milliliter about
8 fifty percent of the patients will be conscious and fifty
9 percent will be unconscious.

10 And as the concentration increases, the
11 probability of unconsciousness also increases, so that at
12 twenty micrograms per mill, again, we have a probability of
13 consciousness of only about 0.02 percent.

14 Q And to kind of -- I know we've changed measure --
15 or systems of measurement here, but to get a -- to get this,
16 the fifty percent probability of consciousness, I believe
17 you said how many micrograms per milliliter would that take?

18 A Seven.

19 Q How much sodium thiopental would have to be

20 introduced or injected into a person to get a concentration
21 of seven micrograms per milliliter?

22 A Well, that depends on how long one waits. You
23 know, one could achieve for a short period of time a
24 concentration of seven with as little as one hundred and
25 fifty to two hundred milligrams in the average person, but

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1 they would not remain asleep for very long.

2 Q That was one hundred and fifty to two hundred
3 milligrams?

4 A Correct.

5 Q Okay. Now, doctor, let me ask you to turn to
6 State's Exhibit 5, if you would, sir.

7 A Okay.

8 Q And explain for us, if you would, State's Exhibit
9 5 and what it depicts.

10 A Here the model is exactly the same as in Exhibit
11 3, except that the X Axis has been carried out to two
12 hundred minutes, or little bit beyond three hours.

13 And here, again, we see that the thiopental
14 concentration of the blood decreases as a function of time.
15 And at two hundred minutes the thiopental concentration is
16 predicted to be 13.4 micrograms per milliliter, which
17 corresponds to a probability of consciousness of about 0.6
18 percent.

19 Q And at thirty minutes the probability of
20 consciousness is what, sir?

21 A .000029 percent.

22 Q And this, again, like Exhibit 3, is assuming an
23 eighty kilogram man and a five gram dose of thiopental
24 sodium administered over two and a half minutes?

25 A Yes.

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1 Q Thank you, Dr. Dershwitz. Let me collect the
2 exhibits before I forget and get in trouble with the clerk,
3 if you'll excuse me.

4 Now, Dr. Dershwitz, I'm assuming that thiopental
5 sodium is normally injected intravenously into a person when
6 it's used by an anesthesiologist; is that correct?

7 A Yes.

8 Q If sodium thiopental is injected into an
9 individual subcutaneously instead of intravenously what
10 would be the effect of it?

11 A Well, the onset of the pharmacological effect
12 would be very delayed, and it would also hurt very much.

13 Q Would -- why would it hurt?

14 A Well, thiopental as used clinically is a solution
15 at a pH between ten and eleven, and normal physiologic pH is
16 7.4, so when one injects such a basic solution
17 subcutaneously it will burn a lot. A solution of pH eleven
18 is well in the direction of the sort of solution that
19 lye-based drain cleaners would be.

20 Q Would it be reasonable in your experience to
21 expect someone to complain if thiopental sodium was being
22 injected into them subcutaneously?

23 MR. DUPREE: Objection.

24 THE COURT: Overruled. You may answer.

25 THE WITNESS: That's my clinical experience

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1 when I've given it to patients with a
2 malfunctioning intravenous catheter.

3 BY MR. NUNNELLEY:

4 Q How often in a hospital setting does one find a
5 malfunctioning intravenous catheter, doctor?

6 A It typically depends on who put it in and how long
7 it's remained in place.

8 Q Would you characterize it -- I'm probably asking
9 this as a lawyer, it may not be in good medical terms -- is
10 it a rel -- is it a common or an uncommon thing for an IV to
11 malfunction in a hospital setting?

12 A Well, I'm not sure what the definition of common
13 is, but many patients require IVs to be replaced
14 intermittently because of, you know, malfunction if the IV
15 needs to stay in place for many days.

16 Q Are there some drugs that are used in the practice
17 of anesthesiology that are uncomfortable to patients even
18 if -- when they are injected intravenously?

19 A Yes. The most commonly used intravenous
20 anesthetic today is called propofol, and it burns a lot in
21 some people even when it's put into a properly functioning
22 IV.

23 Q Do these people typically complain about the
24 effect of it?

25 A Many parents complain as they're falling asleep.

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1 And a few patients will scream at the top of their lungs as
2 they're falling asleep.

3 Q And going back, if we could, to thiopental sodium
4 going -- being injected subcutaneously. Is it fair to say
5 that the loss of consciousness would be slower?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Is thiopental sodium a fat soluble -- a lipid
8 soluble drug, or is it something of some other sort of
9 chemical makeup?

10 A Well, in the bottle, or in the syringe, at pH ten
11 to eleven it's very water soluble. But as soon as it come
12 into contact with biological tissue, it is buffered to the
13 biological tissue's pH of 7.4 and then it becomes highly
14 lipid soluble.

15 Q Does that mean it absorbs rapidly?

16 A It absorbs more rapidly than medications that are
17 not lipid soluble, but it's still relatively slow compared
18 to the intravenous administration route.

19 Q Okay. Is Pavulon also a lipid soluble drug?

20 A It is not. And that is independent of pH

21 Q In putting this -- putting this discussion in the
22 context of an execution carried out by lethal injection, if
23 we assume that thiopental sodium is injected subcutaneously
24 into the inmate, that the IV line is properly flushed with
25 saline, and then pancuronium bromide is injected through

1 that IV line subcutaneously, do you have a judgment in your
2 professional opinion as to which one of those two drugs
3 would be absorbed the more rapidly by the individual?

4 A The thiopental.

5 Q Doctor, I'm asking a question that probably
6 exhibits a keen sense of the obvious, but if a person who is
7 receiving anesthetic -- an anesthetic drug -- let me back
8 up. I didn't ask that very well.

9 In the context of an execution in Florida, and we
10 know what -- you know what the three drugs are, if the
11 inmate is reported to be moving, perhaps speaking,
12 breathing, licking his lips, and turning his head, would
13 these actions be consistent or inconsistent with that inmate
14 having been paralyzed by pancuronium bromide?

15 A Well, if the inmate were completely paralyzed they
16 would be unable to move. So if the inmate is exhibiting
17 motor movements, than that person could not be completely
18 paralyzed.

19 Q What happens with thiopental sodium after the
20 person dies?

21 A The blood concentration continues to decline
22 rapidly in a similar fashion as shown in those graphs that I
23 drew and which you previously displayed.

24 Q Is there a technical term for what is going on
25 when the pental -- thiopental is dissolving or distributing?

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1 MR. DUPREE: Again, your Honor, I am going to
2 object. This is beyond the scope of him being an

3 anesthesiologist, and that's what they qualified
4 him as.

5 MR. NUNNELLEY: He was qualified as a
6 pharmacologist, too, I thought.

7 THE COURT: Overrule the objection. You may
8 answer.

9 THE WITNESS: The process is called post
10 mortem redistribution.

11 BY MR. NUNNELLEY:

12 Q Is there a great deal of research in the
13 context -- is there a great deal of research into post
14 mortem redistribution of thiopental sodium?

15 A There's actually no published research on that
16 topic at all.

17 Q Are you aware of any research that has been done
18 into post mortem redistribution of thiopental sodium?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Can you describe that research for us, sir?

21 A In several states Medical Examiners have drawn and
22 compared blood samples from executed inmates. The first
23 blood sample drawn within a few minutes of the pronouncement
24 of death, and the second blood sample drawn either hours
25 later, or the next day at the time of autopsy. And the --

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1 MR. DUPREE: Your Honor, I have an objection
2 on hearsay grounds. I have no idea where this is
3 coming from. There is no predicate for this at
4 all.

5 MR. NUNNELLEY: It's part of his opinion,
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6 your Honor, he can testify to it.

7 MR. DUPREE: It's not even a peer -- it's not
8 even a peer reviewed argument. This is something
9 he heard from somewhere.

10 MR. NUNNELLEY: I don't think we need to be
11 talking about peer reviewed articles, your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Overrule the objection. You may
13 answer.

14 THE WITNESS: And these blood samples were
15 then submitted for toxicological analysis. And
16 the lab reports, many of them, were supplied to me
17 for review.

18 And in each of these cases the thiopental
19 concentration that was obtained from the blood
20 drawn immediately after death was high and
21 consistent with a miniscule probability of
22 consciousness, whereas in all cases the blood
23 sample drawn hours later was very low and, in
24 fact, in many cases was consistent with a high
25 probability of consciousness.

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1 BY MR. NUNNELLEY:

2 Q Based upon -- based upon this do you have an
3 opinion as to what, if any, conclusions can be drawn based
4 upon a level of thiopental sodium in an executed inmate's
5 blood if that blood was not drawn immediately after the
6 inmate died?

7 MR. DUPREE: Objection, your Honor. Again,

8 predicate, beyond the scope of his expertise.

9 THE COURT: Overruled. You may answer.

10 THE WITNESS: If the blood concentration is
11 high, it would just mean that it was even much
12 higher at the time of death. If the concentration
13 is low, it is impossible to draw any meaningful
14 conclusions from it.

15 BY MR. NUNNELLEY:

16 Q Are you familiar with an article that was
17 published in the medical journal the Lancet which reported
18 very low levels of sodium thiopental in the blood of various
19 executed inmates?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Have you read that article?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Are you familiar with the research techniques that
24 were employed by the authors of that article?

25 A Yes. They reviewed post mortem toxicological

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1 results just as I have.

2 Q Do you have an opinion based upon your training,
3 experience, education, and expertise as to whether or not
4 the conclusions set out in that Lancet article can be
5 supported?

6 A The authors concluded that a very, very high
7 fraction of inmates were probably conscious during their
8 executions. However, based upon the significant delay
9 between the pronouncement of death and cessation of
10 circulation and the obtaining of the blood samples, it would

11 be inappropriate in most of those cases to extrapolate
12 backwards and try to use the post mortem blood concentration
13 as a method of determining what the concentration was just
14 prior to death.

15 Q And, doctor, you have testified your -- in
16 addition to being an anesthesiologist your degree -- you
17 also have a Ph.D. in pharmacology?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Have you also worked in or been exposed to
20 toxicological analysis?

21 A Yes, from many different points of view.

22 Q Describe for Judge Angel, if you would, your
23 experience in the field of toxicology?

24 A First of all, toxicology is a branch of
25 pharmacology. And my actual Ph.D. dissertation involved the

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1 toxicological effects of a particular medication. For most
2 of my research career I have been primarily interested in
3 the pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic effects of
4 medications.

5 And what that means is, the pharmacokinetic
6 effects is the time course of the medication as measured and
7 depicted on those graphs that you saw already.

8 Pharmacodynamic analysis predicts the particular
9 pharmacological effect as a function of the blood
10 concentration.

11 Now, most drugs have both desirable and
12 undesirable effects. And so as a pharmacokineticist, when I

13 have done these studies, we have been able to draw models in
14 which we are able to predict as a function of the blood
15 concentration both the desirable, that is the therapeutic
16 effects, as well as the undesirable, that is the toxic
17 effects of a number of different medications.

18 MR. NUNNELLEY: Your Honor, at this time I
19 would offer Dr. Dershwitz also as an expert in the
20 field toxicology.

21 THE COURT: Any questions?

22 MR. DUPREE: No questions, your Honor.

23 THE COURT: So ordered.

24 BY MR. NUNNELLEY:

25 Q Doctor, are you familiar with a subsequent article

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1 subsequent to the Lancet article that was by the same
2 authors and purported to draw roughly the same conclusions?

3 A Yes. Although, the authors extended their
4 analysis beyond just looking at post mortem blood
5 concentrations.

6 Q And this article appeared in an online journal, I
7 guess, did it not?

8 A Yes, the Public Library Of Science.

9 Q Is that a peer-reviewed entity?

10 A No.

11 Q Does the Public Library Of Science article suffer
12 from the same deficiencies as does the Lancet article?

13 A The authors refer to their conclusions that they
14 expressed in the Lancet article. And surprisingly, in
15 addition, they did not offer any discussion based upon, for

16 example, the letters to the editor that were written to the
17 Lancet that questioned some of their, you know, conclusions.

18 There's two other areas in the PLOS article in
19 which I believe the story that they were attempting to tell
20 is incomplete.

21 Q How is the story incomplete, sir?

22 A In one case, referencing a Dutch study, and
23 keeping in mind that in the Netherlands euthanasia is legal
24 and physicians may legally assist in euthanasia, they quoted
25 a Dutch study that said that thiopental by itself even in

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1 high doses is not lethal.

2 And I think it's silly for the Dutch authors to
3 have made such a conclusion because the largest dose from
4 the Dutch study was only two grams of thiopental. And I can
5 certainly imagine that in some subset of the population two
6 grams is not necessarily lethal.

7 But for the Dutch authors to contend, and for
8 these American authors to repeat; that thiopental at the
9 highest dose is not lethal is completely inconsistent with
10 what we know about pharmacology.

11 The other area that I believe their discussion was
12 incomplete is that they reviewed some lethal injection
13 records in which it appeared that the potassium chloride did
14 not cause the cessation of electrical activity in the heart
15 as rapidly as would be expected. And they used that as an
16 argument that perhaps potassium chloride is not effective in
17 stopping the heart.

18 There is a plausible explanation that may have
19 applied in some of these cases that at least should have
20 been discussed, it should be raised as a possibility. And
21 that is that with the very large doses of thiopental that
22 are used in some states the circulation can slow to such a
23 trickle that the pancuronium and the potassium chloride that
24 are injected sub -- subsequently might literally remain in
25 the arm.

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1 And I believe that there are very good reports, or
2 raw data, from some California executions in which the
3 potassium chloride appeared not to work. And I believe that
4 a plausible explanation is because California also uses five
5 thousand milligrams of thiopental that subsequently
6 administered drugs literally did not circulate.

7 And I'm not saying that that is always the answer
8 in all cases, but it is a plausible explanation that should
9 have been --

10 MR. DUPREE: Objection, your Honor. Not --
11 is this just beyond the degree of real medical
12 certainty, that's a plausible explanation?

13 THE COURT: Overruled. You may answer.

14 THE WITNESS: I raise this just that in a
15 scientific article authors have a responsibility
16 to discuss all possible explanations for their
17 data, those that are likely as well as those that
18 may be unlikely. And so this is a plausible
19 explanation that should have been considered by
20 the authors.

21 BY MR. NUNNELLEY:

22 Q And the fact that they did not consider that
23 explanation is a deficiency in that article; is that what
24 you're saying?

25 A Yes.

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1 Q Doctor, let me ask you this, do you have an
2 opinion to a reasonable degree of medical certainty as to
3 what the effect of the administration of five grams of
4 thiopental sodium followed by one hundred milligrams of
5 Pavulon, followed by two hundred and forty milliequivalents
6 of potassium chloride would be on a human being?

7 A Yes.

8 Q What is it, sir?

9 A It's lethal.

10 Q If that series of drugs in those doses is
11 administered to a human being in the proper sequence through
12 a proper -- through a properly functioning IV line will the
13 individual have any perception of pain?

14 A No. Once the thiopental is administered nothing
15 that is done to the inmate after that is perceptible by the
16 inmate.

17 Q What is the most common, in your experience, IV
18 mal -- Intravenous Line malfunction in a hospital setting?

19 A Well, actually, the most common malfunction is
20 when the IV is accidentally or deliberately ripped out by
21 the patient.

22 Q Okay. And the second most?

23 A The second most common malfunction is when the IV
24 for whatever reason or by whatever mechanism, is relocated
25 from the tip of the catheter to -- from being in a vein to

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1 outside of the vein.

2 Q And if it's outside the vein that would be a
3 subcutaneous delivery of the drugs, would it not?

4 A Yes, it would be in a subcutaneous space.

5 Q And in the hospital setting how do you, as a
6 medical professional, go about making sure that an IV is
7 functioning properly, placed properly, and working like it
8 is supposed to be working?

9 A Well, since a large fraction of the IVs that we
10 take into the operating room are not placed by me or one of
11 my colleagues we typically do check them. And we typically
12 employ a number of tests.

13 we would open the IV clamp wide and see how
14 rapidly the fluid would flow. It should typically flow more
15 quickly if the bag is raised by, you know, making a greater
16 effect of gravity.

17 we would also look at the IV site to make sure
18 that there's no accumulation of fluid that's palpable at the
19 IV site.

20 Q And shifting back to the context of an execution
21 in Florida under the May 9, 2007 protocols, do there -- does
22 there appear to be an adequate or appropriate assessment of
23 the inmate's level of consciousness after the thiopental
24 sodium is administered and before the Pavulon and potassium
25 chloride are administered?

1 A well, my understanding is it's not written in the
2 protocol. My understanding is that the inmate would be
3 stimulated by --

4 MR. DUPREE: Objection, hearsay. If it's not
5 in the protocol it's hearsay, your Honor.

6 MR. NUNNELLEY: He's an expert, your Honor.

7 MR. DUPREE: Your Honor, it's not -- it's not
8 in the protocol, he just said that. It's got to
9 be coming from somewhere else. It's got to be
10 hearsay.

11 THE COURT: Overrule the objection. You may
12 answer.

13 THE WITNESS: My understanding is that the
14 inmate will be tested for presence of reflexes,
15 like the lash reflex. A conscious person, if you
16 touch their eyelashes very lightly, will blink; an
17 unconscious person typically will not.

18 That's probably the most common first
19 assessment that we use in the operating room to
20 determine when a -- when a patient might have
21 crossed the line from being conscious to
22 unconscious.

23 I understand, also, that the -- that the
24 inmate will have his name spoken and -- and be
25 told to do something like, open your eyes, or

1 something like that.

2 BY MR. NUNNELLEY:

3 Q You also, I believe, teach Basic Life Support, do
4 you not, or advanced life support?

5 A I actually don't teach it, but I am certified in
6 BLS and I have taken the course many times.

7 Q And just for the record, BLS is Basic Life
8 Support, correct?

9 A Yes.

10 Q And Basic Life Support is CPR, right?

11 A And other things, but that's the typical thing
12 that the Red Cross or the Heart Association teaches
13 nonprofessional people who may be in a position to be first
14 responders.

15 Q And just for the record, BLS or Basic Life Support
16 is intended for persons other than medical professionals,
17 isn't it?

18 A It's intended for everybody, actually.

19 Q Okay. And in the context of Basic Life Support
20 are lay people taught how to undertake to determine whether
21 or not someone is unconscious?

22 A Yes. The first step when one activates BLS, and
23 the way they teach it in the course is the mannequin is
24 lying on a table. The student is taught to run up to the
25 mannequin, shake her, and say, Annie, Annie, are you okay?

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1 If Annie doesn't respond, as she typically won't,
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2 then Basic Life Support will be started.

3 Q And these are steps that are within the capability
4 of a lay person?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Doctor, I'm showing you what is marked State's
7 Exhibit 6 for identification and ask you if you would review
8 the document, sir?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Are you familiar with that document?

11 A Yes.

12 Q What do you know that document to be, or what do
13 you recognize that document to be?

14 A Well, the first page is a press release that was
15 sent out by the American Veterinary Medical Association.
16 And the remaining pages is the AVMA's 2000 report on their
17 panel on euthanasia of animals.

18 Q And what is the press --

19 MR. NUNNELLEY: Well, I want to offer that
20 document into evidence at this time, your Honor.
21 I believe it's been agreed to, anyway.

22 MS. KEFFER: I don't think we agreed. We
23 both listed it, so no objection.

24 THE COURT: Admitted.

25 (Thereupon, the above-referred-to item was

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1 marked for identification as State's Exhibit
2 Number 6 and was received in evidence.)

3 BY MR. NUNNELLEY:

4 Q And you're familiar with the press release issued
5 by the American Medical -- American Veterinary Medical
6 Association?

7 A Yes.

8 Q What does that press release concern?

9 A The AVMA issued a press release that basically
10 said, and I'm paraphrasing this, that the -- their 2000
11 report of the AVMA panel on euthanasia should not be applied
12 to the injection of humans -- the execution of humans by
13 lethal injection.

14 Q Are you familiar with the 2000 AVMA report on
15 euthanasia?

16 A I read it. I certainly haven't memorized it.
17 It's quite long.

18 Q As a medical professional do you have an opinion
19 as to whether that press release and the AVMA's statement
20 about the application of its report to lethal injection in
21 humans should be respected?

22 MR. DUPREE: I object, your Honor, to
23 relevance.

24 MR. NUNNELLEY: It will become relevant, I am
25 going to tie it up, your Honor.

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1 THE COURT: Subject to tying it up,
2 overruled.

3 THE WITNESS: Well, I think that the lengthy
4 report that the AVMA issued in 2000 should only be
5 considered applying to -- or should not be
6 considered applying to lethal injection because

7 they issued a press release specifically saying
8 so.

9 MR. NUNNELLEY: Okay. May I approach, your
10 Honor? Give it back to me and I'll return this
11 one to the clerk before she comes after me again.

12 MR. DUPREE: I don't know if that was tying
13 it up, your Honor, so I still object as to
14 relevance.

15 MR. NUNNELLEY: Your Honor, if I might -- if
16 I might be heard, it will get tied up with a
17 subsequent witness that I expect the defense to be
18 calling.

19 THE COURT: Okay. Go ahead.

20 BY MR. NUNNELLEY:

21 Q Doctor, do medical professionals use any kind of a
22 scale to rate perceived pain?

23 A Yes. Typically adults are asked to -- to grade
24 their pain, since pain is not a vital sign, on a zero to ten
25 scale. And children are given a series of faces that range

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1 from a happy face to a frowning face to attempt to gauge
2 their degree of pain.

3 Q Do you have an opinion as a medical professional
4 where on the pain scale a subcutaneous injection of
5 thiopental would fall?

6 A Based on my experience of giving thiopental to
7 people with malfunctioning IVs, it's in some persons
8 significantly painful. And although I can't necessarily put

9 myself in their -- in their place, based upon how loudly
10 some of them scream, some of them experience significant
11 pain, perhaps seven, perhaps eight.

12 Q And applying the same scale to Propofol, which is
13 a drug that you use frequently in your practice now, where
14 would it fall?

15 A Propofol is probably even a little more painful.
16 Based on my experience, a majority of patients complain of
17 some pain as they're falling asleep. And, as I said, a
18 small subset literally scream at the top of their lungs.

19 Q But you use Propofol anyway?

20 A Yes, because all other things considered it is
21 still the best intravenous anesthetic we have.

22 MR. NUNNELLEY: Judge, if I could have just a
23 moment to sort out what exhibit I'm hunting for.

24 THE COURT: Sure. Let's take a short break,
25 about five minutes.

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1 (Thereupon, a short recess was taken.)

2 THE COURT: Okay. Resuming our hearing.

3 Proceed with the last witness.

4 MR. NUNNELLEY: Thank you, your Honor.
5 Judge, I have just a very few more questions for
6 this witness. I'm not sure that we got it clear
7 on the record. I had offered Dr. Dershwitz as an
8 expert in the field of anesthesiology,
9 pharmacology and toxicology. I'm not sure we got
10 an acceptance of him as an expert in
11 anesthesiology and pharmacology.

12 THE COURT: Yes.

13 MR. NUNNELLEY: Okay.

14 BY MR. NUNNELLEY:

15 Q Now, doctor, let me ask you this. Would it be
16 correct to say that there are various techniques that a lay
17 person can be taught to employ in assessing whether or not a
18 person is conscious or unconscious?

19 A Yes.

20 Q And let me ask you this, sir. Is -- to you as a
21 medical professional, is depth of anesthesia the same thing
22 as the absence of consciousness?

23 A No.

24 Q Okay. What's the difference?

25 A Depth of anesthesia is something that we do often

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1 in the operating room, and in my opinion that takes an
2 expert, an anesthesiologist, a nurse anesthetist, or someone
3 with equivalent training to determine based upon physical
4 examination and various objective signs, like vital signs,
5 how deeply anesthetized a particular person is.

6 Whereas consciousness in this context is an all or
7 none thing, like pregnancy. You are either conscious or
8 unconscious. And lay people can be readily trained to
9 determine if somebody is unconscious.

10 MR. NUNNELLEY: If I might approach, your

11 Honor.

12 BY MR. NUNNELLEY:

13 Q Dr. Derschwitz, I'm showing you a box which is

14 labeled as State's Exhibit 1. If you would open it. The
15 box has already been cut open, it's not taped any longer.
16 But if you would open that box and look through it and tell
17 me when you're through, sir.

18 A Okay.

19 Q Do those -- do the items contained therein appear
20 to be standard medical equipment --

21 A Yes.

22 Q -- or apparatus? Which is the proper term?

23 A Well, these are the typical medical supplies that
24 someone might use to start an IV and give some medications
25 intravenously.

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1 Q Okay. Let's go through and identify the various
2 items in there, if we could, sir. It makes no difference
3 where you start, whatever is convenient for you.

4 A Okay. The first item one is a liter bag of normal
5 saline.

6 Q One liter would be one thousand milliliters?

7 A Milliliters, or approximately a quart.

8 Q Okay.

9 A The next would be an IV tubing set. And I'm
10 looking for the length. It doesn't say. But one end of
11 this would be inserted into a hole in the bag, and the other
12 end of this would then be attached to an IV catheter that
13 was previously injected -- inserted into the patient.

14 Q And doctor, let me stop you right there. Does --
15 you called this the IV set, correct?

16 A Or IV tubing.

17 Q IV tubing. Does the IV tubing have a priming
18 volume denoted on it?

19 A It doesn't jump out at me. It might be listed on
20 it somewhere. But it's probably somewhere in the vicinity
21 of ten milliliters, give or take a little bit.

22 Q And just so we're clear on what we're talking
23 about here, the priming volume of that --

24 A I just found it. Excuse me. It's seventeen
25 milliliters.

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1 Q That would be how much fluid is contained within
2 the tube from top to bottom?

3 A Yes, from one end to the other.

4 Q Okay. Okay. Go ahead, if you would, with the
5 rest of the items in there, sir.

6 A Okay. Here we have a twenty gauge intravenous
7 catheter that would be used to be inserted into a vein and
8 would be connected to the tubing at the other end. One end
9 is connected to the bag, the other end would be connected to
10 this.

11 We have a couple of different sizes of syringes, a
12 twenty milliliter syringe and a sixty milliliter syringe.
13 And a blunt tip needle that would be screwed on the end of
14 the syringe and then subsequently inserted through a septum
15 in the tubing that would cause the person to be able to
16 inject the contents of the syringe through the IV tubing and
17 into the person.

18 And there's also two extension sets of thirty

19 inches in length that could be used to make the IV tubing
20 longer. This tubing says it's one hundred and six inches,
21 so if one needed to increase the length one could add as
22 many of these thirty inch extension sets as one needed.
23 Q Okay. Let's go back to the syringes, if we could,
24 sir. There are two sizes in there, I believe; is that -- is
25 that right?

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1 A There's a twenty milliliter syringe and a sixty
2 milliliter syringe.

3 Q Okay. And doctor -- okay. Let me ask you this,
4 close to the last question. How long would it take to
5 inject the contents of that sixty CC syringe into an IV port
6 that was properly running, or improperly running even?

7 A Well, part of it depends upon the overall
8 resistance of the tubing as well as the size of the IV
9 catheter itself. But in my experience a sixty milliliter
10 syringe should be able to be emptied at about one to two
11 milliliters per second --

12 Q And --

13 A -- so someplace between thirty and sixty seconds.

14 MR. NUNNELLEY: Okay. If I could have just a
15 moment, your Honor. I pass the witness, your
16 Honor.

17 MR. HOOKER: Ken, do that right there.

18 MR. NUNNELLEY: I did all that.

19 MR. HOOKER: Okay.

20 THE COURT: Tender the witness.

21 MR. DUPREE: Thank you, your Honor.
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22 CROSS EXAMINATION

23 BY MR. DUPREE:

24 Q Good afternoon, doctor.

25 A Good afternoon.

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1 Q Sir, how did you first become involved in this
2 case?

3 A At sometime last year Mr. Nunnelley called me.

4 Q And do you know -- do you recall when last year he
5 called you?

6 A My estimate would be sometime in the fall, but I
7 couldn't be any more specific than that.

8 Q And he called you -- he -- Mr. Nunnelley --
9 Nunnelley personally called you?

10 A I believe so.

11 Q And do you recall what it was he wanted you to do?

12 A I don't have any specific recollection of our
13 first conversation, but I would assume that it had something
14 to do with being an expert in a case.

15 Q Did he tell you what case?

16 A Actually, I didn't learn the name of the case
17 until just a few days ago.

18 Q And what was that?

19 A Lightbourne.

20 Q And you said the fall, could you narrow it down
21 any more than that?

22 A No, I can't.

23 Q Is there any documentation that you would have

24 submitted to the State of Florida -- I'm assuming you're
25 being paid today for your testimony?

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1 A Yes.

2 Q And do you submit bills to the State of Florida?

3 A I will, I have not yet.

4 Q Have you done anything in terms of documenting
5 your time?

6 A I probably wrote down on some scraps of paper some
7 extended conversations, the lengths of them. But the first
8 conversation I had with him was so short that I probably
9 didn't record it.

10 Q Did Mr. Nunnolley send you any material for you to
11 review at that point in time?

12 A At that point in time, no.

13 Q Did he -- did he subsequently send you some
14 material?

15 A There are four documents that I received through
16 you, all of which have been admitted as exhibits here. The
17 current and previous execution protocols. The final report
18 from the Governor's Commission on Lethal Injection. And the
19 Department Of Corrections reply. So that's the total of
20 four documents.

21 Q Okay. Do you know when he sent you that material?

22 A It's all been within the last few weeks.

23 Q Prior to the last few weeks had you received any
24 documentation whatsoever from the State of Florida?

25 A No.

1 Q You had not received the August 16th protocol,
2 August 16th, 2006?

3 A No.

4 Q Have you had any contact with any Department of
5 Corrections personnel in this case?

6 A No.

7 Q Not at all?

8 A I guess it depends on your definition of
9 Department of Corrections. I've talked to a few lawyers,
10 and I'm not sure who works for who.

11 Q Okay. Well, let's -- let's start with that. Who
12 have you talked to?

13 A Primarily with Mr. Nunnelley. When I testified
14 before the Governor's Commission I believe it was Ms.
15 Snurkowski who first contacted me about that, and so we had
16 some conversations pertaining to my testimony before the
17 Governor's Commission. And --

18 Q And let me stop you right there, sir. I'm sorry.
19 What did -- what conversations did you have with Ms.
20 Snurkowski with regard to the lethal injection Commission?

21 A Scheduling a time to be able to testify by phone
22 since I was not able to travel to Florida during that time
23 that the committee was meeting.

24 Q Did she provide you with any reports, any
25 documentation?

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1 A No.

2 Q Did you ask for any?

3 A No.

4 Q Did she tell you what the substance of your
5 conversation -- I'm sorry. Did she tell you what the
6 substance of your testimony in front of the lethal injection
7 Commission would entail?

8 A She told me that it would primarily involve trying
9 to figure out what, if anything, went wrong with the
10 execution of Angel Diaz.

11 Q Did you ask to see any autopsy reports at that
12 time?

13 A No.

14 Q Did you speak with the toxicologist or the Medical
15 Examiner in that case?

16 A No.

17 Q Have you ever talked to the toxicologist or
18 Medical Examiner in that case?

19 A No.

20 Q Have you reviewed any of their testimony given
21 before the lethal injection Commission in preparation for
22 your testimony here today?

23 A No.

24 Q Have you had any -- other than the conversation
25 you said you had with Ms. Snurkowski with regard to the

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1 lethal injection Commission, have you had any other contact
2 with her since that time?

3 A No.

4 Q Did you have any contact with her within the last
5 day or two?

6 A We briefly spoke over lunch today.

7 Q And you recognize Ms. Snurkowski as the person
8 just behind me to my left; is that correct?

9 A Yes.

10 Q And Mr. Nunnelley would be right next to her on
11 her right; is that correct?

12 A Yes.

13 Q How about Mr. Hooker, have you had any
14 conversations with him?

15 A Other than making small talk today to introduce
16 each other, no.

17 MR. HOOKER: Well, I should say you don't
18 know it, but I'm the person that called you about
19 your plane flight the other day. I beeped you and
20 you called me back. We were talking about how you
21 were going to get from Orlando to Ocala. You
22 decided to rent a car. And that was me.

23 THE WITNESS: Okay.

24 BY MR. DUPREE:

25 Q So you had that conversation with Mr. Hooker?

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1 A Yes.

2 Q Okay. Going to the Department Of Corrections
3 personnel, have you -- have you ever talked to Warden
4 Bryant?

5 A No.
6 Q An Assistant Warden by the name of Dixon?
7 A No.
8 Q Have you talked to anybody that was involved in
9 the execution of Angel Diaz?
10 A No.
11 Q Have you talked to any of the execution team
12 members?
13 A No.
14 Q Have you talked to any of the medically --
15 medically qualified personnel that were there and present
16 for Angel Diaz?
17 A No.
18 Q Have you reviewed any reports or any statements
19 that were given by any of those members of the Diaz
20 execution team?
21 A Only as it was incorporated in the Governor's
22 Commission report.
23 Q Did you read -- review the Department of
24 Corrections Task Force report that was released on December
25 20th of 2006?

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1 A Is that the reply to the Governor's Commission?
2 Q No, sir.
3 A Then, no, I did not.
4 Q But you did -- you did review the reply to the
5 Department Of Corrections?
6 A Yes.
7 Q Sir, did you -- you said you have not had any

8 contact with anybody from the Department Of Corrections in
9 terms of being either the Warden or the Assistant Warden.
10 Have you spoken with any attorneys for the Department Of
11 Corrections?

12 A Again, I'm not sure which of the attorneys that
13 I've spoken with who works for who, but the three attorneys
14 that have been named are the only ones with whom I've spoken
15 to.

16 Q And that would be Ms. Snurkowski, Mr. Nunnelley,
17 and what's the third person, and Mr. Hooker?

18 A And --

19 MS. DAVIS: Ms. Davis. I went and got him an
20 brought him to the courthouse. That's the only
21 contact we had, and then that was it. So I'm also
22 an attorney.

23 BY MR. DUPREE:

24 Q How about Mr. Changus, Max Changus; have you
25 spoken with him in the Department Of Corrections?

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1 A No.

2 Q Did you -- have you talked to the Department Of
3 Corrections secretary, Mr. McDonough?

4 A No.

5 Q I'm interested, sir. You said on direct
6 examination that you had had -- even though it's not in the
7 protocol -- I believe your exact language was -- even though
8 it wasn't in the protocol you were aware of what the
9 Department Of Corrections personnel were going to do to make

10 sure that a person who was subject to execution was going
11 to -- how they were going to determine consciousness in that
12 person?

13 A Yes.

14 Q Who did you have that conversation with?

15 A Mr. Nunnelley.

16 Q Mr. Nunnelley told you that?

17 A Yes.

18 Q When did he tell you that?

19 A Yesterday or today.

20 Q Do you know where Mr. Nunnelley got that
21 information from?

22 A No.

23 Q And I believe you testified on direct, sir, that
24 that is not listed in the protocol. There is nothing in
25 there that tells you exactly how a person is going to be

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1 determined to be conscious at the time that he's -- that the
2 sodium thiopental is given; is that correct?

3 A Yeah, the details are not there.

4 Q Okay. Now, you have been involved in the
5 litigation of these kind of issues around the country for
6 the last couple of years; is that correct?

7 A Yes. I think I first participated in a case in
8 the fall of 2003.

9 Q And since that time how many times do you think
10 you've testified in court?

11 A I think this is the fifth.

12 Q And have you always testified on behalf of the
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13 states?

14 A Yes, I have been called by the other side and
15 after they've spoken with me they declined to introduce me
16 as a witness.

17 Q who declined -- who declined to do that, sir?

18 A There -- I don't remember the name off the top of
19 my head, but I was contacted by Public Defender's Offices in
20 at least two states; Oklahoma comes to mind, and I can't
21 remember the other one. And I had lengthy conversations
22 with them. And they ultimately decided not to call me as a
23 witness.

24 Q So when you've testified in court you've only
25 testified on behalf of the State?

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1 MR. NUNNELLEY: Asked and answered. I
2 object.

3 MR. DUPREE: I'll move on, Judge.

4 THE COURT: Okay.

5 BY MR. DUPREE:

6 Q How about affidavits, have you provided affidavits
7 as part of your working with the states?

8 A Yes, I've probably provided affidavits in another
9 six to eight states approximately.

10 Q How many different states would you say that
11 you've given advice to?

12 A Well, I don't give advice, but I have given either
13 court testimony, or testimony by video, or opinions by
14 affidavit, I think in a total of ten or eleven states.

- 15 Q And you charge the states when you testify?
16 A Yes.
17 Q And how much do you charge?
18 A For testimony I charge three thousand dollars per
19 day.
20 Q And how about an hourly rate?
21 A When I'm reviewing materials or doing calculations
22 I charge four hundred dollars per hour.
23 Q Do you know how much you've charged the State of
24 Florida so far to testify in regards to the Lightbourne
25 matter?

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- 1 A No, I haven't sent them a bill yet.
2 Q How about the lethal injection Commission, did you
3 charge them?
4 A No.
5 Q Did you ever have any contact with the Governor's
6 Office in this case, any member of the Governor's Office,
7 the Governor, General Counsel for the Governor?
8 A No.
9 Q Either in the governor -- the former Governor's
10 Bush's administration, or in Governor Crist's
11 administration?
12 A No.
13 Q Have you reviewed any videotapes?
14 A No.
15 Q Any audio tapes?
16 A No.
17 Q Have you reviewed any medical records related to

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18 Angel Diaz or any other inmate?

19 A No.

20 Q Have you reviewed the autopsy photos of Angel
21 Diaz?

22 A No.

23 Q Have you reviewed the autopsy report?

24 A No.

25 Q Have you reviewed the toxicology report of Angel

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1 Diaz?

2 A No.

3 Q Have you ever been to -- have you ever visited the
4 death row here in Florida?

5 A No.

6 Q Did you have -- when you were going back and forth
7 with the State, have you had any occasions to send any
8 correspondence, either by way of E-mails or by letters?

9 A We have corresponded by E-mail primarily regarding
10 logistic issues of when to schedule a phone call or when to
11 schedule this trip.

12 Q Were you sent any kind of advance report or some
13 sort of questionnaire, interrogatories, on behalf of the
14 State telling you what they intended to talk to you about
15 today?

16 A No. The sum total of everything I received are
17 those four exhibits that I described already.

18 Q And did you have discussions with Mr. Nunnelley
19 and or Ms. Snurkowski with regard to those exhibits?

20 A Yes. Mr. Nunnelley and I have had several
21 telephone conversations.

22 Q And how many times would you say you've spoken
23 with Mr. Nunnelley?

24 A Discussing material issues, maybe three or four
25 times.

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1 Q Did you provide any kind of a report to the State?

2 A No.

3 Q Any kind of written memorandum explaining what
4 your position is?

5 A No. The only thing I submitted to them are the
6 three figures that are sitting to your left.

7 Q And that would be the graphs; is that correct?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Okay. With regards to the graphs the -- what are
10 these graphs based upon? How did you make these
11 calculations?

12 A There are published pharmacokinetic parameters for
13 thiopental and how it behaves in normal healthy humans. And
14 the only real material important variable that one inputs
15 into the equation is the patient's weight.

16 And then based upon a given dose and over how long
17 a period it was administered I can then predict what the
18 average blood concentration would be as a function of time.

19 Q And is that based on whole blood or plasma?

20 A Actually, thiopental is typically measured in
21 whole blood. Although, there are other papers out there
22 where they've used serum or plasma, but I'm typically basing

23 this on whole blood.

24 Q And are you familiar with the term Cp50?

25 A Yes.

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1 Q And could you explain to the Court what that
2 means?

3 A Cp50 represents the concentration of a medication
4 that will cause half of a population to display a particular
5 response.

6 Q And what is the Cp50 of thiopental?

7 A If -- well, first of all, it depends on which
8 response you are asking about. But if you're talking about
9 consciousness --

10 Q Yes, sir.

11 A -- the Cp50 for thiopental is typically taken at
12 seven micrograms.

13 Q And is that something that you've independently
14 determined?

15 A I have not done the experiments myself, no. I
16 rely on the published work of others.

17 Q And who did you rely on to make that
18 determination?

19 A The paper that I consider to have some of the best
20 data is a paper whose senior author is Pinter Glass,
21 G-l-a-s-s. And it's approximately from the early '90s.

22 Q Does 1992 sound familiar?

23 A It could be. I don't remember the date offhand.

24 Q And Dr. Glass made a determination that the Cp50

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25 of thiopental is 7.3; is that correct?

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1 A Yes.

2 Q Are you familiar with another paper by
3 Dr. Stanski?

4 A Dr. Stanski has written many papers.

5 Q With regard to the Cp50 of thiopental?

6 A That applies to more than one paper. Can you be
7 more specific or actually show me the paper?

8 Q Sure.

9 MR. DUPREE: May I have a moment, your Honor?

10 THE COURT: Sure.

11 MR. DUPREE: While they're looking, your
12 Honor, I'll ask another question.

13 THE COURT: Uh-hmm.

14 MR. DUPREE: Oh, sorry.

15 MR. NUNNELLEY: Do you have more than one,
16 counsel?

17 MR. DUPREE: Absolutely. Can I approach,
18 your Honor?

19 MR. NUNNELLEY: Do you have one there with
20 you, Mr. Dupree?

21 MR. DUPREE: I'm sorry?

22 MR. NUNNELLEY: Do you got more than one
23 copy? Because what you left me is about a third
24 of what you took up to the witness stand.

25 MR. DUPREE: Well, I can give you the other

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1 one if you would like.

2 MR. NUNNELLEY: Are they all the same
3 thing --

4 MR. DUPREE: Yes.

5 MR. NUNNELLEY: -- or is there more than one
6 document?

7 MR. DUPREE: No, it's the same thing.

8 MR. NUNNELLEY: Okay.

9 BY MR. DUPREE:

10 Q Are you familiar with that paper, sir?

11 A I can't tell because I can't read it. I'm trying
12 to read the -- the abstract, and I actually can't, so let
13 me -- give me a few minutes to look through here to see
14 if -- okay.

15 This is one of the many papers that this
16 particular lab group has published on thiopental. In this
17 particular paper this Cp50 that they are measuring has to do
18 with movement, not consciousness. And movement has nothing
19 to do with consciousness.

20 Q And what is the CP -- what is the determination of
21 Cp50 in that paper?

22 A Well, there's -- I believe there are several. Let
23 me thumb through here.

24 Q Of the thiopental?

25 A It ranges from 15 to 80 -- 15 to 79.

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1 Q Okay.

2 A Whereas the patients didn't move at a Cp50 of 15,
3 and it took 80 or 79 for them not to move in response to
4 having a breathing tube put into their trachea, which is
5 generally taken to being the most uncomfortable thing you
6 can do to a patient.

7 Q So they were measuring the levels of pain; is that
8 correct?

9 A No, they're actually measuring movement. Movement
10 does not reflect pain, and this does not reflect
11 consciousness. Movement is different.

12 Q Are you familiar with a textbook by Goodman and
13 Gilman, the Pharmacological Properties of Parenteral
14 Anesthetics?

15 A Yes.

16 MR. DUPREE: Again, may I approach?

17 MR. NUNNELLEY: Do you have something for us
18 to read? Let's -- yeah. Is this my copy or is
19 this something you want?

20 MR. DUPREE: Can I approach, your Honor?

21 THE COURT: Sure.

22 BY MR. DUPREE:

23 Q Have you had an opportunity to look at that table,
24 sir?

25 A Yes.

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1 Q And that book is that -- by the way, is that book
2 authoritative?

3 A It is accepted a typographical error there, which
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4 I have already pointed out to the author. I believe the
5 author is Dr. Alex Evers of this chapter, even though it's
6 not listed here. And he and I have spoken about that. And
7 it's going to be fixed in the next edition.

8 Q Well, what does -- what does it say right there,
9 sir? It says 15.6; is that correct?

10 A Yeah, and doctor --

11 MR. DUPREE: Your Honor, I'm going to object.
12 That's a total hearsay. It's in the book. I'm
13 asking him to look at what is there.

14 THE WITNESS: But I'm testifying that that's
15 a typographical error based --

16 MR. DUPREE: Your Honor, I would move to
17 strike as hearsay.

18 THE WITNESS: -- based upon my assessment.

19 MR. NUNNELLEY: Your Honor, he's badgering
20 the witness. Can we go one at a time at the very
21 least?

22 THE COURT: I'll sustain the objection. Just
23 restate the question and let the witness answer
24 the question.

25 MR. DUPREE: Judge, I asked the question. He

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1 went beyond the question.

2 THE COURT: All right. Well, we'll sustain
3 the objection.

4 BY MR. DUPREE:

5 Q Would you agree with me, sir, that if the noxious