From: <u>Stratton, Sophie</u>

To: <u>ttan</u>
Cc: <u>Purdy, Linda</u>

Subject: Forte Public Records Request

Date: Tuesday, February 8, 2022 2:26:36 PM
Attachments: Forte Original Trial Transcript REDACTED.pdf

Statement - Forte REDACTED.pdf

Suffolk Police Department Supplementary Report REDACTED.pdf

Good afternoon Ms. Tan,

Attached please find redacted documents pursuant to your public records request submitted January 14, 2022. There is no cost associated with these records. Please let me know if you need any further information in response to your request.

Take care.

Sophie Stratton

Assistant Attorney General Office of the Attorney General | Criminal Division 109 State Street Montpelier, VT 05609 802.828.5512

PRIVILEGED & CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION: This email may contain confidential, privileged, and/or sensitive law enforcement information. DO NOT read, copy, or disseminate this communication unless you are the intended recipient. Unauthorized copying, forwarding, disclosure, or distribution of this email or its contents, or taking any action in reliance on the contents of this email are prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient or have received this email in error please notify the sender immediately via email or by calling 802.828.5512, and destroy the email.

STATE OF VERMONT BENNINGTON DISTRICT COURT BENNINGTON COUNTY, ss UNIT NUMBER ONE 2 3 STATE OF VERMONT VS.) JURY SELECTION 6 LEONARD FORTE 7 DOCKET NO. 1031, 1032, 1033-7-87 Bor 8 HELD AT: BENNINGTON DISTRICT COURT 10 BENNINGTON, VERMONT DECEMBER 6, 7, AND 8, 1988 11 APPEARANCES: 12 THERESA ST. HELAIRE, Esq., on behalf of 13 the State of Vermont. 14 WILLIAM D. WRIGHT, Esq, Bennington County 15 State's Attorney, on behalf of the State of Vermont 16 KATHERINE A. HAYES, Esq., on behalf of the 17 Defendant. 18 PETER M. LAWRENCE, Esq, or behalf of the 19 Defendant. 20 BEFORE 21 HONORABLE THEODORE S. MANDEVILLE, District 22 Judge. 23 24

BETTY J. LOFTUS, Court Reporter.

1	WITNESSES - STATE	DIRECT	CROSS	REDIRECT	RECROSE
2		502	676	594	700
3	Leonard Dubrow	706			
4	Rosalie Salemme	709	718		
5	Carolyn Wimmer	725	751	766	774
6	Ron Williamson	796	811	824	826
7	John Hanley	831		,	
8	Michael LeClair	851	857	873	877
9	Barah Satzman - chambers	882	883	890	891
10	Sarah Satzman - open court	912	929		
11	WITNESSES - DEFENDANT				r
12	Eric Duel	843	849		
13	Karen Marallo	946	949	958	
14		953	962	125	
15	Laonard Forta	1024	1248		
ĺ					

But unfortunately this didn't end there. 1 It wasn't going to be so easy for 2 3 school personnel. And and 5 they talked to the school secretary. the social worker for the school system. 8 9 social worker then came and talked to 10 . 11 contacted 12 13. mother contacted the police. 14 15 16 And by now, 17 18 19 20 21 22 23

24

25

to back away from this because another friend of hers; a cirl named wanted her to say something to the secretary contacted the assistant principal who contacted The assistant principal and the school The social worker and the assistant principal mother. She came down and was told was saying, and a few days later And the police came and spoke with and she had to tell them what she had been is stuck. This is out of She has no-control over this story anymore. The railroad has started and she is just a passencer. Now the police did a number of things to try and obtain some evidence against Mr. Forte, a warrant to search his house in Vermont and they did search the house in Vermont and they found nothing, nothing that indicates that he did anything to

They had him arrested. And the night he

```
cleared it up. But perhaps I am mistaken.
                                                    Would you ask
1
     the appropriate question?
2
     BY MR. LAWRENCE:
3
               we have been talking about the February
     vacation?
5
                    MS. ST. HELAIRE
                                        Her name is
6
                     MR. LAWRENCE: Sorry, I hope I don't do
7
     that the other way.
8
    BY MR. LAWRENCE:
10
          Yes.
11
                     MS. ST. HELAIRE: He still hasn't said
12
    which night.
13
                     THE COURT
14
    BY MR. LAWRENCE:
15
          Let me check in here and see when we talked about
16
                     is it your testimony that you.
17,
18
          No.
                It's Thursday.
19
          And this picture that you just identified that was
20
     what it looked like on Thursday night?
21
     А
          Yes.
22
     Q
          That is your testimony?
23
     A
          Y#S.
24
                       , you told your friends at school that
25
```

```
Mr. Forte had done things to you, didn't you? Didn't you
1
    tell that to your friends at school?
2
    A
          When?
3
          Sometime in April of 1987?
          I told one person.
5
          And this was before you had said anything to any
6
    adult, right?
7
          Right.
8
         And that one person your testimony is was someone
9
    named
10
11
                                                who you had also
          And then a friend
12
    told?
13
14
          She took you to the school secretary?
15
          Yes.
16
          She wanted you to talk to a counselor, but you went
17
    to the school secretary?
18
    A
          Yes, but --
19
          The school secretary --
20
          -- the only reason why we talked to the secretary
21
    was because the counselor wasn't in.
22
          And the secretary was Mrs. Clotts?
23
          Right.
24
          And Mrs. Clotts, she contacted the assistant
25
```

Yes.

The assistant principal was with me and a

And that during that time, several times during the time

that she was up there. Mr. Forte had come up behind her

24

Mr. Forte?

A About the information and what happened that night yes, that is true.

Now you have talked with her about other things, haven't you?

A Yes, I have.

And you have talked to her about coming to court?

MS. ST. HELAIRE: Objection. May we approach the bench?

THE COURT: Yes.

MS. ST. HELAIRE: Your Honor, there are several reasons we are up here. First of all what we are looking for is I would like an offer of proof as to why Mr. Lawrence is going on with this. And I think I know.

Secondly, it is beyond the scope of direct if he is going to get into other conversations that had with Sarah Satzman. Because she has been seeing her on another basis. He is trying to --

THE COURT: Excuse me, as a therapist?

MS. ST. HELAIRE: It has nothing to do

with anything in this case. He is trying to make some

inference that she is from a broken home and making all

this up. And it has nothing to do with this. I would

like to know where Mr. Lawrence is going with this

questioning.

MR. LAWRENCE: It's true that

and continued to be friends after this February
vacation, continued to spend time at each other's house. At least
until the end of March, and then they had a fight and they stopped
being friends. And then started telling the other girls
at school that had done bad things. And this is
goingthese rumours are going around the school yard. As
Mrs. Gualandi told you, there was a war - girls on each side. And
the first time that anything was said to an adult, was
when one of these school girls, took, took,
spoke to the school secretary, and then the social worker was
brought in, the Assistant Principal; then her mother was brought
in; and then the police were brought in. This is not a case of
delayed reporting. This is a 12 year old making a false accusation
that she doesn't really understand she's only 12 years old.
And then it's completely out of her control. Withanother
contradiction that I pointed out is, where was when these
things were supposedly happening? told you that
was right next to her, 6 inches away, and that is a restless
sleeper, a light sleeper. The physical closeness of and
makes this completely unbelievable. Supposedly, on each
of these nights with right next to ,
is getting on the floor with, moving her around,
(as Ms. St. Helaire pointed
out), in a And he's doing all of this while
his daughter is 6 inches away. 6 inches6 inches away. And

CERTIFICATE

I, BETTY J. LOFTUS, Official Court

Reporter of the Superior Court do hereby certify that the foregoing pages 1 through 1065, inclusive, comprise a true, full, and correct transcript of the proceedings and testimony taken by me in the matter of STATE OF VERMONT versus LEONARD FORTE, Docket 1031, 1032, 1033-7-87 Bcr, as to which a transcript was duly ordered.

Official Court Reporter, 1/28/89

STATE OF NEW YORK) COUNTY OF SUFFOLK) SS:
I, do make the following statement: I am years old, born on with my mother, and my two brothers. I am in the grade at the
Last year, during Spring break in 1986, my friend invited me to go to Florida withher and her parents. I asked my mother and she said yes. On a Thursday Mrs. Forte and and I drove to Florida, which took about two days. Mr. Forte had already driven down and was waiting for us on their very large boat. I stayed about a week. During that time Mr. Forte, whenever Mrs. Forte was not around, would wrestle and play the "tickle game" with me. He would also when he would tickle and wrestle he would also the was embarrassed and uncomfortable but I didn't know what to do. Mr. Forte would then whispe in my ear, things like "you're a pretty little girl", stupid things like that. I didn't tell anyone aboutthis until about two weeks ago when I was talking to a problem with Mr. Forte. We decided to tell someone in school, so we went to the office and told the school nurse. I then told my mother.
I have read the above statement and I swear it is all true.
(Signed)
(Signed)
I didn't tell the school nurse, we told the School Secretary (which was in the nurse's office)
(Signed)

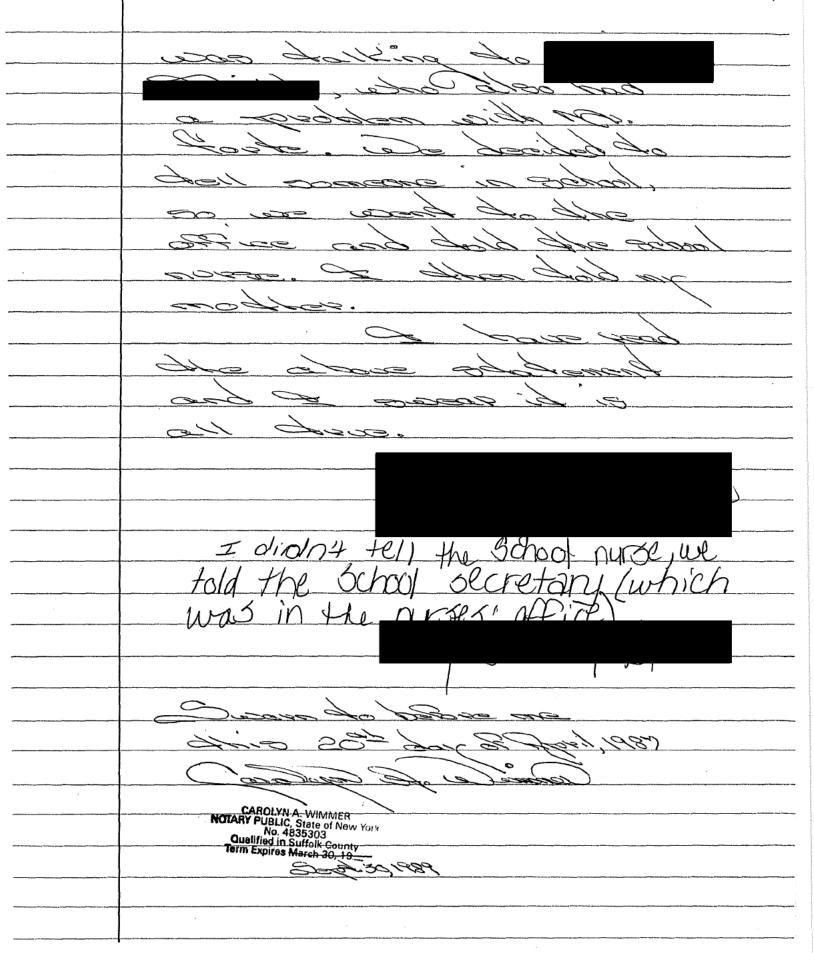
Sworn to before me this 20th day of April 1987 Carolyn A. Wimmer (Signed) Notary Public

CC#87-160891

Sworn Statement of:

188031-18

POLICE DEPARTMENT COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, N.



The same of the sa												
87-160891	Рст. 5	3330	504	17-158		POL	ICE DE	PARTME	NT, COUN	TY OF S	UFFOLK	. N.Y
DATE OF REPORT	DATE	AND TIME OF	1		1			SUP	PLEME	NTAR	Y REP	OR
4/15/87	Unk	cnown			186						PDCS-	108
CONFIDENTIA	T TNK/DOM	TCAMTON	STAT	UTE	1	CE OF OCCUR			у⊡ 14.9	100 0	0075106	
OVPL AIN ANT	TIMES!	TOATION	P 40 %	E		ffolk Co	unty			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
SALEMME, RO	SALIE											
date of 4/20 MRS. SALEMME LEONARD FORT The undersig Hospital to	the Stated that she was nie Sue lested to 1/87 was E indicate, and med required trees.	te of Ve the man apprise Adams, he assis agreed ted that that the	en sexuermont, who is has ad of the Astance upon. there y may hat MR	but the selieve also had all have all have	used. MRS at she was ed to have d contact olem by re Principal Sex Crime re been the e occurred	S. SALEM s not po e commit with him epresent l, and S Squad w nree sepa l in the	ME indisitive ted the m in Statives arah Saith interestante in State	on all e acts a affolk (of the atzmon, erview ncident of Verm	that the of the also rescounty. School ing the with the cont.	facts a ides in MRS. S Counsel the man	at this in Suffo SALEMME. Or. Mi and in known	tir lk RS. a
nave been se informed of	xually a the inqu	abused by uiry and	y the m she a	man, LEC lso requ	NARD FORT	E.	\$.	be int	was	s conta	may al cted an	nd
informed of The same nig	the inquit of Ap	abused by uiry and oril 20,	y the r she a 1987 v	man, LEC lso requ	NARD FORT	E.		be int		s conta	cted an	nd
informed of The same nig	the inquit of Ap	abused by uiry and oril 20,	y the r she a 1987 v	man, LEC lso requ	NARD FORT	E.	S. 1.	be int		s conta	cted an	nd
informed of The same nig	the inquit of Ap	abused by uiry and oril 20,	y the r she a 1987 v	man, LEC lso requ	NARD FORT	E.	S 1.	be int		s conta	cted an	nd
informed of The same nig	the inquit of Ap	abused by uiry and oril 20,	y the r she a 1987 v	man, LEC lso requ	NARD FORT	E.		be int		s conta	cted an	nd
nave been se informed of The same nig	the inquit of Ap	abused by uiry and oril 20,	y the r she a 1987 v	man, LEC lso requ	NARD FORT	E.		be int		s conta	cted an	nd
informed of The same nig	the inquit of Ap	abused by uiry and oril 20,	y the r she a 1987 v	man, LEC lso requ	NARD FORT	E.		be int		s conta	cted an	nd
informed of The same nig	the inquit of Ap	abused by uiry and oril 20,	y the r she a 1987 v	man, LEC lso requ	NARD FORT	E.		be int		s conta	cted an	nd
nave been se informed of The same nig	the inquit of Ap	abused by uiry and oril 20,	y the r she a 1987 v	man, LEC lso requ	NARD FORT	E.		be int		s conta	cted an	nd
nave been se informed of The same nig	the inquit of Ap	abused by uiry and oril 20,	y the m she a 1987 v	man, LEC lso requ	NARD FORT	E.		be int		s conta	cted an	nd
nave been se informed of The same nig	the inquit of Ap	abused by uiry and oril 20,	y the m she a 1987 v	man, LEC lso requ	NARD FORT	E.		be int		s conta	cted an	nd
nave been se informed of The same nig	the inquit of Ap	abused by uiry and oril 20,	y the m she a 1987 v	man, LEC lso requ	NARD FORT	E.		be int		s conta	cted an	nd
nave been se informed of The same nig	the inquit of Ap	abused by uiry and oril 20,	y the m she a 1987 v	man, LEC lso requ	NARD FORT	E.		be int		s conta	cted an	nd
nave been se informed of The same nig	the inquit of Ap	abused by uiry and oril 20,	y the m she a 1987 v	man, LEC lso requ	NARD FORT	E.		be int		s conta	cted an	nd
nave been se informed of The same nig	the inquit of Ap	abused by uiry and oril 20,	y the m she a 1987 v	man, LEC lso requ	NARD FORT	E.		be int		s conta	cted an	nd
informed of The same nig	the inquit of Ap	abused by uiry and oril 20,	y the man she a. 1987 v	man, LEC lso requ was agre	NARD FORT	E.	UHEN AS		erviewed	s conta	cted am	nd ce.
The same nig	the inquit of Ap	abused by airy and bril 20, ain ACTIV	y the man she a. 1987 v	man, LEC lso requ was agre	NARD FORT	E.	 	PLI CABLE		s conta l by ou	cted am	nd ce.

T.T. VESS. NO. CANCELLING ABOVE T.T. MESS. NO.

DATE CANCELLED

Vet. Carm the Macedonio #693/3330/2

T. MESS. NO. REFORTING (£ STULL) AND OR LOST PROPERTY

87-160891 DATE OF REPORT 4/20/87	5 3330 DATE AND TIME O	504 17-158	POL	ICE DEPARTMENT, COUNT SUPPLEMEI	TY OF SUFFOLK, N.Y. NTARY REPORT PDCS-1084c
INCIDENT	AL INVESTIGATION	STATUTE DN PHONE	Suffolk Col	. OK INS	10E OUTSIDE
SALEMME, RO	SALIE				
DETAILS					,
On 4/20/87 to	the undersigne		ective Carolyn ork, to interv	Wimmer #722, of Comm Lew	and 3330, responde
	igned interviewed me that if			sed that she had learn , she would want to h	
that these		formed upon her b in the State of V	y LEONARD FORTI	as informed that acts E. Detective Wimmer widen	•
This interval		was redu OSALIE SALEMME.	ced to a handwi	ritten statement and	signed by both
our Supervi there was n	sors and the D o crime commit		s Office for reunty, New York,	has disclosed would eview. I advised her and that we would as	that at this time
	the undersigne	d, along with Det	<u>ective W</u> immer,	responded to	
	gned interview gh		ing had happene	ed, she was not sure o	and was advised of what.
of 1986, sh the Spring		to go to Florida while they were s	with the FORTE	family. state	ated that during
Detective W signed by b		this interview wi	th	to statement for	orm, which was
We informed to progress		that, at this tir ould have to confe	me, we did not er with our Sup	know where this inves ervisors before proce	stigation was going eding any further.
	that several o			e also informed durir panied LEONARD FORTE	
This invest	igation is to	remain ACTIVE.			
FOUNDED		CASE STATUS		WHEN APPLICABLE CHECK A	ND ENTER ON REVERSE
[X ves C			CLOSED Non - Criminal	RECLASSIFICATION OF INCI	
NOTE: ВОТН Т.Т. ЧЕ			BY COMMAND REPORTING	THE RECOVERY OF STOLEN AND OR	
T. WESS. NO. PEPCRY ME STOLEN AND GR LOS		DATE SENT	T.T. WESS. NO. C. ABOVE T.T. MESS.		DATE CANCELLED
Det. Carmine	Macedonio #69	3<i>WX 693/33</i> 93/3330/2	SUPERVISOR'S SIG	THE HED 460/333	d ns

87-160891	5	3330	504	17-15	8		POLICI				F SUFFOLK. ARY REPC
4/21/87	1	nown	O CCU A R EN	ŒΕ			*/		OFFEE	MEINIA	PDCS-1
NCIDENT			STAT	UTE		PLACE OF	OCCURRENC	E	© x	INSIDE	OUTSIDE
CONFIDENT	IAL INVEST	IGATION	PHON	-			lk Cour	nty			
SALEMME, I	ROSALIE		PHON			ADDRESS					
ETAIL 5											
On 4/21/87 viewing the determine	ose who m	ervisor ay have	s of t	he Sex	Crime with	Squad.	It was	then d		a d to co	nd ntipue into to
It was als	o <u>decided</u> f	that t	he Sta disc	te Poli	ice in	the Sta	te of V	ermont	should b	e conta	cted and
This inves	tigation :	is to r	emain 1	ACTIVE.	• •		•	-		· .	
										,	
					,						
											,
		,									
							1				
											,
											•
										,	
FOUNDED			CASE	STATUS	·		WHE	N APPLIC	ABLE CHECK	AND ENT	ER ON REVERS
res I ve	ACTIVE PENDING	CLEARE EXCEPT			C CLOSE	D .	0	RECL ASSIF	ICATION OF I	N C I D E N T	
: ec - 7.7. ve	55. NO'S WITH				ERED BY (OMWAND REPOR	TING THE				OPERTY.
FESS. NO. REPORT TOLEN AND OR LOS	1 3 5		DATE			T.T. MESS. N ABOVE T.T. M	O. CANCELL				CANCELLED