

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
FOR THE STATE OF OHIO
COUNTY OF LORAIN

HUBERT PORTER, ADMINISTRATOR
OF THE ESTATE OF
BRAD J. PORTER, DECEASED

VS.

NO. 96 CV 115689

MANHAL A. GHANMA, M.D.,
ET AL

ORAL DEPOSITION OF DR. ARABA B. QUANSAH
Taken November 16, 1996

A P P E A R A N C E S :

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ORAL ANSWERS AND DEPOSITION OF DR. ARABA B. QUANSAH, taken November 16, 1996, beginning at about 9:25 a.m., in the offices of Permian Court Reporters, 605 West Texas, Midland, Texas, before Debra D. Guthrie, Certified Shorthand Reporter for the States of Texas and New Mexico, pursuant to the Rules of Procedure.

I N D E X

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EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number	Description	Page Ident.
1	drawing	--

1 DR. ARABA B. QUANSAH
2 the witness, was duly sworn on oath by the
3 Court Reporter to tell the truth, the whole
4 truth, and nothing but the truth, whereupon the
5 witness testified as follows in answer to the
6 questions propounded by Counsel:

7 EXAMINATION

8 BY MR. LANSDOWNE:

9 Q. Doctor, would you state your full name
10 for the record, and spell it, please?

11 A. Araba, A-r-a-b-a, middle initial B, and
12 the last name is Quansah, Q-u-a-n-s-a-h.

13 Q. Doctor, you are going to have to keep
14 your voice up.

15 MR. LANSDOWNE: Can you hear her,
16 Don?

17 MR. SWITZER: Just barely.

18 A. The name is Araba Quansah. The first
19 name is A-r-a-b-a, middle initial of B, and the last
20 name is Quansah, Q-u-a-n-s-a-h.

21 Q. Okay. Doctor, what is your date of
22 birth?

23 A. February 17, '48.

24 Q. Where were you born?

25 A. In Ghana, West Africa.

1 Q. Could you tell me about your educational
2 background?

3 A. Yes. I did my primary education and
4 secondary education in Ghana. And I came to the
5 U.S. to go to college. And I did my bachelor's at
6 Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa.

7 And I worked for a year, went home for a
8 while, came back, worked for another year and went
9 to graduate school at the University of Michigan,
10 where I got my master's in mathematics. And then I
11 wait another five years before I decided I wanted to
12 go to medical school.

13 After that, I went to Brinmar College in
14 Pennsylvania for one year, to get my premed
15 requirement. In between, I went back to the
16 insurance company and worked for almost another year
17 before I enrolled at the University of Pennsylvania
18 School of Medicine.

19 Q. Okay. So how long in between your
20 bachelor's degree and entering medical school?

21 A. I finished my bachelor's in 1971. And I
22 started medical school in 1984.

23 Q. Okay. But you had gone back to Brinmar
24 to do some premed work?

25 A. Yes. I needed to get my science

1 requirements, because it had been a while since I
2 did it.

3 Q. Okay. And you graduated, you got your
4 M.D. in May of '89?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And what did you do after that?

7 A. I went to do my internship at St.
8 Vincent's Medical Center in Bridgeport,
9 Connecticut.

10 Q. Okay. And was that a general internship?

11 A. Yes, rotating internship.

12 Q. One year?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And after you completed that, what did
15 you do?

16 A. I went to Baylor College of Medicine in
17 Houston, Texas.

18 Q. For your residency?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And that was a one-year residency?

21 A. No. I left after one year to continue in
22 Michigan.

23 Q. Why did you leave after one year?

24 A. I decided to leave within a few months
25 after I had been there, that I wasn't happy with

1 their program. But I wanted to finish the whole
2 year and get the whole year credit before moving on.

3 Q. Why weren't you happy with the program?

4 A. I just didn't like it for personal
5 reasons.

6 Q. Okay. Then you finished your residency
7 two years at Jackson --

8 A. Yeah, it is three total. Since I had
9 done one year, I had two more years to do.

10 Q. And that was at University of Miami,
11 Jackson Memorial?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. What did you do after that, after you
14 completed that residency?

15 A. I finished end of July, '93, and then I
16 went to Ghana the same day I finished, and stayed
17 for about three months, came back and started
18 looking for a job.

19 Q. Okay. And where did you first find
20 employment?

21 A. I discovered that the market was
22 saturated, and so I started doing some
23 locum-tenency.

24 Q. What is that?

25 A. That is temporary assignments as an

1 independent contractor.

2 Q. Is that an agency that assigns you
3 somewhere?

4 A. Yes. Sometimes I find it myself. Other
5 times the agency -- when I worked in Fort Myers,
6 Florida, that was a personal arrangement by myself.

7 Q. All right.

8 A. And then I also worked with Compel Cron,
9 which is an agency.

10 Q. And Whitaker Medical Services, that is an
11 agency, too?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Compel's Cron, where are they located?

14 A. They used to be in Durham, North
15 Carolina. I understand they have moved from there.
16 I don't know. They may be in Salt Lake City. I am
17 not sure.

18 Q. Okay. So from December of '93, through
19 June of '94, you were working in the Florida area?

20 A. Uh-huh. Yeah.

21 Q. Several different hospitals?

22 A. Yeah. Actually I did Florida Medical
23 Center at Kissimmee and then Fort Myers Hospital,
24 the hospital in Fort Myers.

25 Q. Okay. And that was as part of an

1 independent contractor arrangement?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And then how was it that you got up to
4 Lorain, Ohio?

5 A. I had applied to premed, And sometime in
6 May of '94, they called me and said they had an
7 opening, and if I would come and interview for it.
8 So I went to Lorain to interview for the position.

9 Q. Premier Anesthesia of Lorain?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. What is that?

12 A. It is an -- Allegiant used to be called
13 Premier Anesthesia. And they have a contract --
14 they had a contract with the hospital in Lorain to
15 provide anesthesia, so they get people that is
16 independent contractors to provide the services.

17 Q. Okay. And you actually worked for
18 Premier or Allegiant?

19 A. As an independent contractor, yes.

20 Q. Well, how did that work? I mean, tell me
21 how the arrangements were made between you and
22 Allegiant.

23 A. You have a contract with Allegiant, or at
24 the time it was called Premier Anesthesia, where you
25 have your -- you sign over all billing rights to

1 them. They do the billing. And they guarantee you
2 an income.

3 And then there is a formula in there
4 where after a certain amount, you know, there is
5 some kind of profit sharing or something like that.

6 Q. So there was some kind of contract that
7 you had with Allegiant?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Do you still have a copy of the contract?

10 A. I do not have it with me right now.

11 Q. I understand you don't have it with you
12 right now, but do you still have it?

13 A. Probably, but I have been moving around
14 so much, I have to look for it.

15 Q. Okay. Well, I am going to request a copy
16 of that contract. Okay? If you can provide it to
17 your counsel.

18 A. Okay.

19 Q. Did Allegiant tell you where to go to
20 perform your anesthesia service and what hours to be
21 there?

22 A. I interviewed with Premier Anesthesia of
23 Lorain. And at the time, the contract was with St.
24 Joseph's Hospital, before it merged with Lorain
25 Community Hospital. So all my services were

1 provided at that facility.

2 Q. And St. Joseph's?

3 A. Yes, which it later became East Campus of
4 Lorain Community St. Joseph's.

5 Q. Did you have regular working hours at
6 St. Joseph's?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And what were your hours?

9 A. We start cases in the morning. And
10 usually cases start at 7:30 or 8:00 on weekdays.
11 And then we have a call schedule which we rotate
12 around. The call schedule is made every month. And
13 we take calls by that schedule.

14 Q. Is there a particular area of anesthesia
15 that you specialize in?

16 A. Over there, we did everything. We were
17 not doing cardiac, but we did everything else,
18 including obstetrics. And I did everything --
19 anything that was assigned to me.

20 Q. Okay. Would basically you get an
21 operating room each day, and that was your room for
22 that day?

23 A. Yeah. Whoever is on call that day
24 assigns for the next day, so we all did assignments.
25 Like if I am on call today, I will do the assignment

1 tomorrow.

2 Q. So you know ahead of time what OR you are
3 going to be in?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. You know what kind of cases you are going
6 to have coming up the next day?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Was this a one-year contract?

9 A. No. It is -- it was a five-year
10 contract, but it lasts as long as Premier has a
11 contract with the hospital.

12 Q. Well, you left -- when did you leave
13 Premier?

14 A. The 28th of July, 1995.

15 Q. Why did you leave?

16 A. After that incident, I just -- I was so
17 devastated. I didn't want to work in the OR
18 anymore, so I told them to assign me to the preop
19 evaluation clinic, and obstetrics unit until the end
20 of two weeks, for them to find somebody else.

21 Q. You are talking about the incident with
22 Brad Porter?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Okay. So after Mr. Porter's death, you
25 decided that you didn't want to work in the OR

1 anymore?

2 A. At that time, yes.

3 Q. So you asked to be -- I missed part of
4 that, I guess.

5 A. We have a preanesthesia test in the
6 clinic where patients for elective surgeries come in
7 for evaluation for anesthesia. Okay. They do preop
8 testing, all of the lab work, EKG, and then they
9 call anesthesia to come and evaluate the patient for
10 anesthesia.

11 Whoever is assigned this is also assigned
12 to the obstetric unit for the day, so you do both
13 obstetrics and the PAT. And that is what I was
14 doing for the last two weeks.

15 Q. And then you left all together?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Is that because they couldn't keep you in
18 that type of position any longer or what?

19 A. This is a -- we all work as a group.
20 Okay? We rotate through different departments. I
21 have to take call. You will be needed -- so I can't
22 tell them, "Look, don't put me on the call
23 schedule. I will only do PAT."

24 I just wanted to leave. I also wanted to
25 spend some time preparing for my exams. I was going

1 to take my boards.

2 Q. So what did you do then? You went to
3 Ghana Dominican Republic?

4 A. Yes. I went with a group, a mission
5 group. They go there every year to do some medical
6 work. One of the surgeons asked me if I can go with
7 them to do the anesthesia.

8 Q. So you were down in the Dominican for a
9 month?

10 A. No, for a couple of weeks.

11 Q. A couple of weeks? Okay. And then what
12 did you do?

13 A. Then I just stayed home. I went to my
14 sister's and spent some time there.

15 Q. Where does your sister live?

16 A. She used to live in Silver Springs,
17 Maryland.

18 Q. So you didn't work for a period of time?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. How long did you not work?

21 A. From the time I came from the Dominican
22 Republic in the middle of July, I stayed in Ohio
23 until end of -- middle of August. I stayed in Ohio
24 until the end of August, and then I went to
25 Maryland. And I stayed there until the end of

1 November, when I moved to Texas.

2 **a.** What made you move to Texas?

3 A. I decided I will come and -- at the time,
4 after I had passed my boards and so on, I decided I
5 wanted to gradually get back into anesthesia.

6 And I did have privileges with one
7 hospital in Dallas, so I decided to come there and
8 start gradually working, you know, try to get some
9 cases from some surgeons and start working.

10 **a.** When did you take your boards?

11 A. October 18, '95.

12 Q. There is an oral part and a written part
13 of the boards?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. You took them both?

16 A. No. I took the written July of '93.

17 Q. And you passed it?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Okay. That is the first time you took
20 it?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And then the oral in October of '95?

23 A. Yeah.

24 Q. And you passed that?

25 A. Yeah.

1 Q. First time?

2 A. No. Second time.

3 Q. Okay. When did **you** take it the first
4 time?

5 A. October '94.

6 Q. All right. So you have been board
7 certified since the fall of '95?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And what have you been doing since
10 November of '95?

11 A. I have been doing a combination of an
12 independent contractor working in Dallas and
13 locum-tenancy.

14 In Dallas, you get privileges. It is
15 opened privileges, so you get privileges at the
16 hospital. And then you have to go and see the
17 surgeons and so on and try to solicit cases from
18 them. And then I also worked with a locum-tenancy
19 agency.

20 Q. Which one is that?

21 A. Nation Wide Medical Services.

22 Q. How long have you been working with them?

23 A. I worked with them at one facility -- no,
24 two, so I spent two weeks at the Doctor's Hospital
25 in Corpus Christi, sometime early February.

1 And then at the end of February, I came
2 to work at Texas Tech Medical -- Texas Tech
3 University Medical Center in Lubbock, from the end
4 of February to end of June.

5 Q. On this locum-tenancy program?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. How often do you normally work? I mean,
8 how many days a week do you normally work?

9 A. For the locum-tenancy work, it was
10 full-time, five days a week, at the University
11 Medical Center.

12 Q. But you are not doing that anymore,
13 right?

14 A. After I finished that, I went to Ghana,
15 came back and started working again the same way I
16 used to in Dallas. And then I got a call that they
17 needed a locum-tenant here in Odessa for a week, so
18 I came and worked with them for a week. And at the
19 end of the week, they asked me to join them
20 permanently, so that is why I am here.

21 Q. Okay. So now you are with an anesthesia
22 group in Odessa?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. What is the name of that group?

25 A. Advanced Anesthesia Concept.

1 Q. And how long have you been with them?

2 A. Since October 2nd.

3 Q. Of this year?

4 A. Yes. I worked a week with them in
5 February, and then I got the contract and everything
6 worked out so that I came -- I got here October 1st,
7 and started working with them October 2nd.

8 Q. What do you do? General anesthesia?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. At what hospitals do you have privileges?

11 A. Right now I am at Medical Center Hospital
12 in Odessa.

13 Q. Working full-time, five days a week?

14 A. Yes, and whenever I am on call.

15 Q. Do you do all -- the whole range of
16 general anesthesia?

17 A. Yeah, except cardiac.

18 Q. Okay.

19 A. And we don't do OB here. I do OB, but
20 our group doesn't do it.

21 Q. In addition to that work for that group,
22 are you doing any other work? Are you doing any
23 moonlighting?

24 A. No. My contract excludes that.

25 Q. Have you ever given a deposition before?

1 A. No.

2 Q. Well, you understand that I am here to
3 ask you some questions about what occurred in the
4 care that was provided to Brad Porter --

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. -- leading to his death?

7 A. Uh-huh.

8 Q. And let me just remind you of a few
9 things. I am sure your counsel probably told you.
10 If you don't understand my questions for some
11 reason, please tell me that. Okay?

12 A. Okay.

13 Q. And if you don't hear my question, please
14 tell me that, as well. All right?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And as you have been doing, please answer
17 out loud, and keep your voice up, rather than
18 answering uh-huh or huh-uh, something like that.
19 Okay?

20 A. Okay.

21 Q. If you need to take a break at any time,
22 tell me that as well, and we will certainly do
23 that.

24 A. Okay.

25 Q. And if at any time you feel during the

1 deposition that you want to go back and correct an
2 answer that you previously gave, feel free to do
3 that as well. All right?

4 A. Uh-huh.

5 Q. You have to answer yes.

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. You will get the hang of it. Have you
8 ever given testimony in a courtroom?

9 A. No, except for traffic.

10 Q. Have you ever been named as a Defendant
11 in a lawsuit, other than the one we are here about
12 today?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. How many?

15 A. One.

16 Q. Where was that?

17 A. In Ohio.

18 Q. When was that?

19 MS. HENRY: My usual objections
20 throughout this.

21 MR. LANSDOWNE: Sure.

22 MS. HENRY: Go ahead.

23 A. This was December of last year.

24 Q. December of '95?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Is that case still ongoing?

2 A. No.

3 Q. What happened to it?

4 A. Settled for -- should I say the amount?

5 Settled for \$2,000.00 as a nuisance claim by the
6 insurance company.

7 Q. What was the name of the case?

8 A. Nancy Gonzales versus Hays.

9 Q. But you never gave a deposition in that
10 case, correct?

11 A. No.

12 Q. That is correct, you didn't?

13 A. No, I didn't.

14 Q. Any other lawsuits that you remember?

15 A. No.

16 Q. Any other lawsuits in which there was a
17 question about the care that you were providing,
18 whether or not they named you specifically?

19 A. No.

20 Q. You answered some interrogatories in this
21 case. Do you recall doing that?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Did you have a chance to review them over
24 yesterday, perhaps?

25 A. I didn't go through them.

1 Q. Okay. When is the last time that you saw
2 them?

3 A. When I did it.

4 Q. Okay. Do you still have an active
5 license in Ohio?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Have you ever had your license suspended
8 or revoked by any state?

9 A. No.

10 Q. Have you ever had your staff privileges
11 revoked or curtailed at any hospital?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Have you ever been put on any kind of
14 suspension from the practice of medicine?

15 A. No.

16 Q. Mr. Porter was at Lorain Community
17 Hospital, correct?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And had you worked at that facility prior
20 to this case?

21 A. Yes. That is where I had been working
22 since I got into that hospital -- I mean, joined
23 Premier.

24 Q. Okay. So this was after the merger of
25 Lorain and St. Joseph's?

1 A. Uh-huh.

2 Q. You have to answer out.

3 A. Yes. I am sorry. That is the way I talk
4 with my language.

5 Q. That is okay. Had you ever worked with
6 Dr. Ghanma before on a case?

7 A. No.

8 Q. Do you know Dr. Ghanma?

9 A. Not before that case.

10 Q. You had worked that operating room
11 before, hadn't you?

12 A. Oh, yes, Uh-huh.

13 Q. In preparation for your deposition today,
14 what did you do?

15 A. I reviewed the chart.

16 Q. Did you review anything else?

17 A. Mostly the chart.

18 Q. Mostly the chart, but was there something
19 else that you looked at?

20 A. No. I just tried to recollect.

21 Q. Did you review any deposition testimony?

22 A. No.

23 Q. Did you look at any medical literature?

24 A. I look at medical literature all the time
25 in connection with my work, but not purposefully for

1 this.

2 Q. Okay. Have you ever since this incident
3 looked at any medical literature specifically in
4 relation to Mr. Porter's situation?

5 A. Yeah.

6 Q. What did you look at?

7 A. I have looked at literature on trauma and
8 preop complications and so on in connection with my
9 work, but they are all related.

10 Q. I think I understand what you are
11 saying. You look at literature all the time to do
12 your job, correct?

13 A. Uh-huh.

14 Q. If you answer yes, it will be better.

15 A. Yes. Okay.

16 Q. What I really was asking is did you at
17 any time go seek out literature to try and explain
18 for yourself what happened with Mr. Porter?

19 A. Not specifically.

20 Q. Okay. Did you find just in the course of
21 your general reading, any literature that helped to
22 explain to you what happened with Mr. Porter?

23 A. I don't understand the question very
24 well. I mean, explain what happened to the patient
25 or what caused the problem? You will have to ask --

1 Q. Sure. You have looked at some
2 literature, as you said, in connection with your
3 job. Some of that had some relationship to
4 Mr. Porter's situation. I was wondering if you had
5 found anything in the course of that reading that
6 explained to you what caused Mr. Porter's death?

7 A. No. No.

8 Q. Other than your counsel, have you
9 discussed Mr. Porter's situation with anybody?

10 A. When we did the quality assurance meeting
11 in which we discussed the case.

12 Q. When was that done?

13 A. Before I left Lorain Community. We had a
14 quality assurance meeting in which the case was
15 discussed with my place at Lorain Community St.
16 Joseph's Hospital East Campus.

17 Q. Anybody else that you discussed this case
18 with?

19 A. Not specific details, but my family knows
20 that something happened that made me leave my job,
21 and they know that a patient did not survive
22 surgery.

23 Q. After Mr. Porter died, did you -- other
24 than the medical records, did you write up a summary
25 of what happened, so you could keep it fresh in your

1 mind?

2 A. No. I had a copy of my summary on the
3 chart.

4 Q. Okay. Did you make any kind of notes
5 anywhere as to things that occurred so you could
6 later on refresh your recollection?

7 MS. HENRY: Other than her chart
8 note?

9 Q. Other than her chart note.

10 A. No.

11 Q. Have you ever read a summary or a
12 chronology, other than the medical records, prepared
13 by somebody else?

14 A. No.

15 Q. Without telling me what it might be, were
16 you given anything by the quality assurance committee
17 that you have looked at since the time of that
18 meeting?

19 A. No.

20 MR. TREU: Objection.

21 Q. So I am clear then, what you will be
22 talking about today in response to my questions
23 would be based upon your recollection of the events,
24 and also based upon the medical records, correct?

25 A. Yes. Uh-huh.

1 Q. Okay. Can you tell me then what caused
2 Brad Porter's death?

3 A. I don't know.

4 Q. Has anyone ever told you what caused his
5 death?

6 A. The only thing is from the chart, from
7 the coroner.

8 Q. You did read the coroner's report?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Do you agree with it?

11 A. I don't know. That is not my specialty,
12 because I don't know what caused the death.

13 Q. You don't have any basis to either agree
14 or disagree; is that correct?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. I take it from some earlier responses
17 that you gave, that this was an event that you found
18 I think devastating is what -- the term you used?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Did you ever try to figure out what
21 caused Mr. Porter's death?

22 A. Well, anything I tell you will be
23 speculating, and I don't want to do that.

24 Q. Well, I am not asking you to speculate.
25 I am just asking, did you ever try and figure out --

1 I mean, here is this patient who died.

2 A. Yeah, I did, but they are all
3 speculations.

4 Q. Well, what did you do to try to figure it
5 out?

6 A. I just went through my mind, the sequence
7 of events that happened. And I cannot think of
8 anything that I could have done to have caused the
9 death, so I -- it has just been -- that is why it
10 has been devastating to me.

11 Q. When did you first have any knowledge of
12 a patient by the name of Brad Porter, that you were
13 going to be --

14 A. That morning of July 15th.

15 Q. And how did that come about?

16 A. I think sometime between 6:00 and 6:30, I
17 got a call from the nursing supervisor that
18 Dr. Ghanma wanted to do an IND on the patient.

19 I was on call that Saturday, and calls
20 start at 7:00, so they called to inform me what I
21 had for the day, and that it was supposed to be at
22 9:00 in the morning.

23 Q. Uh-huh. So what did you do?

24 A. I got to the hospital around 7:00. I was
25 involved in the obstetrics suite. And when I was

1 done there, I went to the operating room, and it
2 was, I think, around 8:00. And I went there and set
3 up my room and waited for the patient to arrive.

4 Q. What does that mean, you set up the
5 room?

6 A. Turned on the anesthesia machine, turn on
7 my morning test and check the machine and get the
8 drugs from the narcotic cabinet, and then draw the
9 drugs that I will need for this surgery.

10 Q. Did you have any part of the chart to
11 review?

12 A. Not at the time.

13 Q. You had just been informed that it was
14 going to be a debridement?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Were you told how long the procedure was
17 going to take?

18 A. From IND, I didn't think it would take
19 that long, maybe 45 minutes to an hour was my
20 estimate.

21 Q. And I guess based on the fact that you
22 were already turning on your machines and everything,
23 you planned to do a general anesthesia?

24 A. Every patient that comes into the OR is a
25 potential general anesthesia, so we prepare for

1 general anesthesia for every patient,

2 Q. With respect to Mr. Porter, what was your
3 plan at this point, before you seen him?

4 A. At that point, I had not talked to the
5 patient, so I didn't have any specific plan.

6 Q. All right. What happened next then?

7 A. After I finished, I went out and the
8 patient came in. He was placed in front of the
9 preoperative care unit, so I went to him, introduced
10 myself and got the chart and reviewed the chart and
11 asked him some questions.

12 Q. What is the preoperative care unit?

13 A. During the day when -- weekday, when we
14 have a regular surgery day, patients are brought
15 into the preoperative care unit. Okay. They have
16 curtains, drapes to separate patients. And then we
17 go and talk with them.

18 And usually they have had a preoperative
19 evaluation before. It may or may not be done by
20 you, so you go and review the chart. The nurse will
21 put an IV in.

22 You give your preop medication, like
23 medicine to relax them or any other medications they
24 may need. If you have to put in and do a regional
25 anesthetic, they have monitors there where you hook

1 up the patients and do your regional, like epidural
2 or a block.

3 On weekends, that place is not open, so
4 the patient is brought into the hallway in front of
5 that place and you can talk to the patient.

6 Q. So the preoperative care unit is locked
7 **up** on the weekends?

8 A. No, it is not locked up, but there is no
9 -- there are no nurses taking care of that place.
10 Okay? So all of the preoperative vital signs and
11 everything is done on the floor.

12 Q. Okay.

13 A. And then they bring the patient down for
14 the anesthesiologist to talk to the patient and
15 review the chart before taking the patient in.

16 Q. And this is done in the hallway? You
17 meet with the patient in the hallway?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Did you administer preoperative or
20 preanesthesia drugs in the hallway?

21 A. On weekends, it is probably only one
22 patient. And this is a really private area. So
23 there is no other patient there, except for people
24 in the operating room.

25 Q. I am just asking, is that -- to get the

1 sequence, did you administer the drugs in the --

2 A. Oh, okay. Mr. Porter, I didn't give him
3 any preoperative drug, because he had already gotten
4 Ritalin and Valium from the floor.

5 Q. All right. Who had ordered that?

6 A. One of my colleagues who was on call
7 Friday night was told about the case. And he went
8 to try to see the patient, but at the time the
9 patient was just --

10 MS. HENRY: Just answered who ordered
11 it.

12 A. Okay. Dr. Boidman.

13 Q. And he had tried to see the patient
14 Friday night?

15 A. Uh-huh.

16 Q. You have to answer yes.

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And why wasn't he able to see the patient
19 on Friday night?

20 A. The patient was asleep.

21 Q. What time did he try and see him?

22 A. As I recall, I think it was around
23 midnight or so.

24 Q. What was the purpose of him going to see
25 him on Friday night?

1 A. He was the one on call. And they told
2 him there is going to be surgery in the morning.
3 That is what we usually do if something is coming in
4 the morning that is an add-on or an emergency, they
5 call whoever is on call to go in and evaluate the
6 patient.

7 Q. The night before?

8 A. Yeah, if it is scheduled the night
9 before.

10 Q. Why do you see the patient the night
11 before?

12 A. Because you may need some other
13 information that is not on the chart or something,
14 so that you get everything together.

15 Q. Did you have a conversation with this
16 doctor before meeting with Mr. Porter on Saturday?

17 A. No.

18 Q. How do you know that he had -- is there
19 something in the chart that he put in there? There
20 is a preanesthesia evaluation note dated 7-15-95,
21 correct?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And that was filled out by doctor what is
24 his name?

25 A. Boidman.

1 Q. Boidman?

2 A. Uh-huh.

3 Q. And you reviewed this?

4 A. Yeah.

5 Q. When did you review it?

6 A. When I saw the patient.

7 Q. Dr. Aoidman writes up in the section on
8 -- well, first of all, he indicates he had a
9 previous spinal anesthesia, correct?

10 A. Yes. If you will look at the right, it
11 says chart only.

12 MS. HENRY: He wants to know did he
13 write that.

14 A. Oh, yeah.

15 Q. Right. You are pointing out the history
16 was from the chart only, correct?

17 A. Uh-huh. Yes.

18 Q. So that is how you knew that Dr. Boidman
19 hadn't seen Mr. Porter?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And later on, you learned that the reason
22 he didn't see him **was** because he was asleep?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Okay. When did you talk to Dr. Boidman
25 about that?

1 A. The quality assurance meeting.

2 MS. HENRY: Anything that came out in
3 the quality assurance is -- you can't testify to.

4 Q. Did you talk to Dr. Boidman at any time
5 about Mr. Porter, other than at the quality
6 assurance meeting?

7 A. I just wanted --

8 MS. HENRY: Yes or no?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. When?

11 A. The day after, when he went to see the
12 patient.

13 Q. The day after what? The day after he
14 died?

15 A. That was Saturday. Monday.

16 Q. You went to see Dr. Boidman and talked to
17 him about this --

18 A. No. No. We were all standing there. I
19 just asked when he found out about the surgery.

20 Q. And he told you what?

21 A. They called him that night.

22 Q. Told you that they had called Boidman on
23 Friday night, and he went to see Mr. Porter, correct?

24 A. Uh-huh.

25 MS. HENRY: Yes?

1 A. I am sorry. My language, that is the way
2 I talk.

3 Q. It is all right.

4 A. Okay. Yes.

5 Q. What else did Dr. Boidman tell you?

6 A. Nothing. He didn't know the patient.

7 Q. You have to keep your voice up.

8 A. I said not much. He couldn't tell me
9 much, because all he knew is what is written here.

10 Q. He told you that he went to see the
11 patient, and that the patient was asleep Friday
12 night when he went to see him?

13 A. No. He told me that he was called that
14 night, late that night about a patient. And it was
15 late that night, and he couldn't call me. But the
16 discussion as to whether he was -- he actually saw
17 the patient or whether he was --

18 MS. HENRY: Wait a minute. If you
19 are going to say anything about quality assurance --

20 THE WITNESS: Don't speak?

21 MS. HENRY: Can we go out in the hall
22 a minute and discuss this?

23 (PAUSE)

24 MS. HENRY: I just took a break with
25 the doctor, and I have -- some of these questions

1 have been objected to. And we have now explained
2 what quality assurance means in the State of Ohio.

3 And as you well know, anything that
4 happens in quality assurance is privileged and is
5 not divulged, therefore I told her that she is not
6 to answer any questions about quality -- anything
7 that happened in quality assurance.

8 And so when she answers your question,
9 she is going to be answering based on anything that
10 occurred outside of quality assurance. Okay?

11 MR. LANSDOWNE: Very good.

12 Q. Doctor, I was asking you about your
13 discussions with Dr. Boidman, right?

14 A. Uh-huh.

15 Q. And did Dr. Boidman tell you that the
16 patient was asleep when he went to see him?

17 A. No.

18 Q. How do you know that the patient was
19 asleep when Dr. Boidman went to see him?

20 A. Because -- well, I didn't know he was
21 asleep, outside --

22 Q. Outside of what occurred in quality
23 assurance, you mean?

24 A. Yes. But we have on the chart wherever
25 it says chart only. Okay? When somebody sees --

1 tries to see a patient and they can't see the
2 patient -- the patient in person, maybe the patient
3 has gone for a test, maybe the patient is asleep,
4 maybe it was late at night when the person found
5 out, they indicate chart only, so that whoever is
6 doing the case knows that the person who did the
7 preop did not see the patient in person.

8 Q. Okay. Dr. Boidman also wrote question
9 mark, dif airway, question mark. Do you see that?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. What does that mean?

12 A. I think from the previous chart, there
13 was a mention of being a difficult intubation.

14 Q. Okay. You think that Dr. Boidman picked
15 that up from the previous preanesthesia record,
16 correct?

17 A. I think so.

18 Q. Because he didn't see him, so he wouldn't
19 really be in a position to know that, would he?

20 A. Yes. Uh-huh.

21 Q. Did you go back then on the 15th the
22 morning of the 15th and look at the previous
23 preanesthesia evaluation?

24 A. Yes. I look at it and I talk to the
25 patient and go over whatever is on the preanesthetic

1 record.

2 Q. Okay. July 13th, '95, is the previous
3 preanesthesia evaluation, correct?

4 A. Yes. Yes.

5 Q. Now, what does it say up there under
6 airway?

7 A. "Appears anterior, wide neck, could be
8 difficult." And it also says, "Patient quite
9 sedated, difficult to assess airway."

10 Q. It also says, "Small chin"?

11 A. Small chin, yeah. "Full set of teeth."

12 Q. "Appears anterior." What does that refer
13 to?

14 A. We usually check with the fingers here.
15 Some people have a rather -- nobody here -- where
16 you put three fingers, you can only get two.

17 The way the chin is can indicate whether
18 your airway is anterior, so we assess that with how
19 many fingers.

20 Q. You measure the chin with fingers
21 underneath the jaw?

22 A. Yes. Yes.

23 Q. Correct?

24 A. Yeah. Hyoid distance.

25 Q. And if that distance is only two fingers,

1 you call that a small chin?

2 A. Yeah. And the trachea will be anterior.

3 Q. And so that the trachea is -- what is the
4 significance of that in terms of doing --

5 A. When you do a laryngoscope, it is more
6 difficult to observe the vocal cords and the glottic
7 opening.

8 Q. Why? Just anatomically you can't
9 visualize it as well?

10 A. Yes. Most times.

11 Q. The significance of the anterior airway,
12 that is really one problem then? A small chin and
13 anterior airway are one in the same problem or is
14 that two different problems? Do you know what I
15 mean?

16 A. Having the small chin and the anterior
17 airway?

18 Q. Is that one in the same problem?

19 A. Yeah. Usually somebody having that will
20 have an anterior airway.

21 Q. Okay. I mean small chin, if you don't
22 have an anterior airway, does that present a problem
23 in and of itself?

24 A. If the person has a small chin and
25 doesn't have an --

1 Q. An anterior airway.

2 A. No.

3 Q. Okay. So it is a related thing, correct?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Is the problem only in the intubation, or
6 is it in the intubation and maintenance of the
7 airway?

8 A. Intubation.

9 Q. Only in putting the tube in?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Anything else about this patient that was
12 significant in terms of -- preoperatively, we are
13 talking, about in terms of your anesthesia
14 management?

15 MS. HENRY: Wait a minute. We were
16 just talking about what was on this particular 7-13
17 note, which was not done by her. We are not talking
18 about her assessment of this patient and the
19 anesthesia management, so that question is pretty
20 misleading actually.

21 Q. Well, I didn't mean it to be. But we --
22 what I meant to do is then move to what your
23 preanesthesia evaluation was.

24 A. Okay.

25 Q. Okay?

1 A. Uh-huh. I saw the patient. I read the
2 chart. I read the preanesthetic evaluation, and
3 then I did my own evaluation of the patient's
4 airway.

5 Q. That morning, the morning of the 15th,
6 correct?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And did you chart that evaluation?

9 A. No.

10 Q. Why not?

11 A. The preop evaluation had been done
12 already, and I didn't write over. I just did my own
13 as I took the patient to the operating room, so I
14 didn't write over. This is the preanesthetic
15 record. I just didn't write over it.

16 Q. Okay. What did you find in your
17 preanesthesia evaluation?

18 A. I thought it would be difficult, too.
19 And since he had difficult airway, question, I just
20 left it the way it is. When I asked him to open his
21 mouth -- we also look into the mouth. Okay. And
22 assess, yourself.

23 You check if you can see the tonsil, the
24 uvula, and how much of the uvula you can see, and we
25 give a classification for that.

1 Q. What is the classification?

2 A. Malan pati classification, m-a-l-a-n,
3 p-a-t-i.

4 Q. And how does that classification work?

5 A. If somebody opens their mouth, bring
6 their tongue forward and you can see the whole uvula
7 and the anterior and posterior tonsil palate and the
8 soft palate, that is class one. That means the
9 patient will be easy. It predicts that the patient
10 will be easy intubation.

11 If you see only the soft palate and the
12 part of the uvula, the base of the uvula is covered,
13 you see only part of it, that is class two. That
14 also predicts relatively easy intubation.

15 Class three, which I found this patient
16 to be, is you do not see the uvula. What you see is
17 the soft palate. Okay? That is also relatively
18 difficult intubation.

19 Q. How far does the classification go up?

20 A. Four.

21 Q. Did you chart that he was a three
22 anywhere?

23 A. I didn't write over the preop. It says
24 difficult airway, and I checked and I thought it may
25 be difficult, but I didn't write it down.

1 Q. But you just remember that that is what
2 you classified him as, a three?

3 A. Uh-huh. Yeah. I remember I agreed with
4 this.

5 Q. And that would mean he was a three?

6 A. Uh-huh. Well, I found that he was a
7 three.

8 Q. Okay. Well, what is the significance of
9 that, that he is a three going in? What is the risk
10 involved?

11 A. It is just a predictability. Sometimes
12 you find somebody like that, but you go in and the
13 intubation can be easy.

14 Sometimes the patient's cooperation -- it
15 can also depend on the patient cooperation on how
16 wide they open their mouth. So all that it does is
17 it gives you an information that the patient may be
18 difficult to intubate.

19 Q. Okay. Did you have -- you mentioned
20 before you had a discussion with Mr. Porter in the
21 hallway, correct?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Tell me what you said and tell me what he
24 said.

25 A. Looking at the chart, I found out that he

1 had his first surgery by spinal, and he did well.
2 So I talked to him about spinal anesthesia, and he
3 refused. Okay?

4 Q. Why did he refuse? Did he tell you why
5 he refused?

6 A. He just didn't want it, want to have a
7 spinal.

8 Q. Okay. Did you recommend a spinal?

9 A. Yes. I told him he did well with a
10 spinal the day of his accident, and if he would
11 consider having a spinal, and he said no.

12 Q. Did you ask him why don't you want to
13 have a spinal?

14 A. He said he didn't like it. He just
15 didn't want it.

16 Q. Did you explain to him that he had a
17 potentially difficult airway?

18 A. Yes. Yes, I did.

19 Q. What did you tell him?

20 A. I told him that he has a potentially
21 difficult airway, and if he wants a general -- you
22 know, patient's refusal is an absolute
23 contraindication for a procedure. Okay.

24 So I told him I will do general, but if I
25 cannot intubate him, I will wake him up and do an

1 awake intubation or spinal. That is what I told
2 him.

3 Q. So you explained to Mr. Porter that there
4 was a difficult intubation, but he still wanted to
5 go ahead?

6 A. If it was a difficult intubation, okay.
7 We get patients like that. Sometimes we can
8 intubate them. And as I said, some of it is also
9 due to patient's cooperation, so we have a way of
10 dealing with it.

11 And I told him how I am going to deal
12 with it, and that if he is asleep and I cannot
13 intubate him, I will wake him up and do an awake
14 intubation.

15 Q. How were you going to wake him up?

16 A. You cannot wake the patient up. What you
17 use for -- as a polarizing agent is short acting, so
18 you can mask ventilate him until they wake up.

19 Q. Who was with Mr. Porter when he had this
20 discussion?

21 A. Some of it the nurses were around.

22 Q. And do you remember any of the nurses
23 that were around?

24 A. I know Eugenia was there. I don't know
25 if he was the one in the holding area.

1 Q. Who?

2 A. Eugenia.

3 Q. Was any of -- anyone from Mr. Porter's
4 family there when you had this conversation?

5 A. I don't recall it.

6 Q. There might have been, you just don't
7 recall?

8 A. Uh-huh.

9 Q. You have to answer yes.

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. How long was this conversation with him?

12 A. Probably 10 minutes.

13 Q. Was he -- he had already been sedated by
14 this time, hadn't he?

15 A. He got the Valium, but it was not long
16 before he came down. He appeared alert to me.

17 Q. How long ago had he had the Valium?

18 A. I think the chart said 8:30, but let me
19 check to make sure.

20 MR. TREU: 8:30.

21 MS. HENRY: 8:30? I am looking for
22 it.

23 MR. TREU: It is on the med sheet.

24 Q. It is on the med sheet. I don't know
25 what it is charted at in the nurse's notes. He had

1 Valium at 8:30?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And when did you have this conversation
4 with him?

5 A. Around 8:45.

6 Q. I am just trying to get my timing here.

7 A. We were in the OR --

8 Q. I see you have an anesthesia start at
9 09:00.

10 A. Yes. That is the time in the room.

11 Q. That is the time in the actual operating
12 room?

13 A. Yes. If you look at the nurse's record,
14 it says in room at 9:00.

15 Q. Okay.

16 MS. HENRY: What are you looking
17 for?

18 MR. LANSDOWNE: I was just looking at
19 when he was moved out of the room, if there was a
20 note indicating when he was moved out of the room.
21 I don't know that I see one.

22 MR. SWITZER: What is the question?

23 MR. LANSDOWNE: I was looking for a
24 note as to when he was moved out of the room on his
25 way to the OR, but we haven't found a note anyway.

1 We are going to go on.

2 Q- So then he gets into the room -- the
3 operating room at 9:00?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Okay. What is the procedure then once he
6 gets in the room? He is still awake when he gets in
7 the operating room?

8 A. Yes. Yes. We put our monitors on, the
9 blood pressure cuff, the EKG and the pulse oximeter.

10 Q. When you say we, who are you referring
11 to?

12 A. The nurse sometimes helps with putting
13 the monitors on.

14 Q. All right. Is he moved from his hospital
15 bed to the table yet?

16 A. No. Because he is going to be in a prone
17 position, we induce on the stretcher that they come
18 in.

19 Q. All right. Go ahead. I interrupted
20 you. I am sorry. You put on the monitors and then
21 what?

22 A. Yeah. And before we -- well, let me go
23 on. We put on the monitors. He was moved down in
24 bed, so I tried to get him to move up towards the
25 head of the bed. Okay?

1 Q. Uh-huh.

2 A. Because I have to intubate him and so
3 on. So I wanted him to move. And he complained of
4 pain with movement. So I gave him --

5 Q. Pain where?

6 A. In the leg, with movement.

7 Q. Okay.

8 A. So I gave him some pain medication, which
9 was Fentanyl. And then we got him up. And then I
10 put a mask on his face, and I gave him the tubal
11 curari.

12 But to go back, first we take the vitals
13 before we induce. So then I started inducing. I
14 gave the curari, which is a defasciculating agent.
15 So I gave him the curari, waited about a minute or
16 two, then gave him some more Fentanyl and then gave
17 him propofol, which was the induction agent. That
18 is what gets him to sleep.

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. So I gave him propofol, and mask to make
21 sure I can ventilate him. And the reason for that
22 is if I cannot intubate, at least I can ventilate
23 him until the stuff wears off.

24 So I check to see if I can ventilate him
25 with mask, and yes, I could, so I give him the

1 succinylcholine to paralyze him for the intubation.
2 And actually he was an easy intubation. I could see
3 the vocal cord. I could see the glottic opening.

4 Q. You remember that?

5 A. Yes, I do. I do. He wasn't a difficult
6 intubation. I went in one try, and it was in. And
7 we checked for the intubation on the capnograph,
8 which shows us the tube that is in the trachea.

9 And then we check for equal breath sounds
10 on the chest, to make sure it is not endobronchial
11 intubation. It hasn't gone off to one side. So I
12 checked that.

13 Then I turned -- at the time I was
14 checking this, I had nitros, so I turned it to 100
15 percent oxygen, because when you move the patient,
16 you disconnect briefly, so you want the maximum
17 oxygen in their system.

18 Q. Okay. Can you stop there for a second?

19 A. Okay.

20 Q. This is all second nature to you, but for
21 me, it takes a little while.

22 MS. HENRY: Before we go on, can we
23 have a bathroom break?

24 Q. Sure.

25 (PAUSE)

1 Q. Doctor, as I understand it, when you
2 intubated him, you had no difficulty, correct?

3 A. No, Yes.

4 Q. Did he have an anterior airway?

5 A. No,

6 Q. And it was one attempt?

7 A. Yes,

8 Q. And you checked the ETCO2?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. And that is checked on your monitor?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. It is a reading that is taken from the
13 mask, or how is that reading taken?

14 A. There is a sensor that goes to the elbow
15 of the endotracheal tube. There is a sensor. And
16 the sensor analyzes the air, the exhaled air. And
17 it gives the carbon monoxide, and it comes in a
18 graph that goes up like this.

19 Q. A graph that you are watching on your
20 machine?

21 A. Yes, continuously.

22 Q. Okay. It doesn't print out a graph, does
23 it?

24 A. No.

25 Q. And you are watching the ETCO2, because

1 that is an indication of whether the patient is
2 breathing or not, correct?

3 A. That is the best indication that the
4 patient is intubated well in the trachea, because
5 that is where you get the carbon dioxide. It
6 measures the carbon dioxide in the exhaled air.

7 Q. At this point that you have now -- in the
8 sequence of things we have been talking about, the
9 patient has now been intubated. He has been
10 paralyzed, intubated and is now under your
11 anesthetic management?

12 A. Yes. The succinylcholine wears out
13 quickly, so I gave him something which is paralyzed
14 for a longer time.

15 Q. You are giving him that to paralyze him
16 throughout the procedure?

17 A. For most of the procedure.

18 Q. Okay. And then you chart each of these
19 drugs that you give him?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And you also chart in terms of airway
22 management, that it was one attempt, that ETCO2 was
23 present?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Breath sounds equal bilaterally?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. What do you do then to get the patient
3 over in position for the operation?

4 A. We put the hands on the side, and roll
5 them. We put the two beds together. Okay. We put
6 the hands on their side, and we all roll the patient
7 over onto the operating bed. And we put a chest
8 roll here, to make sure that his stomach is hanging
9 and that it is not squished in by the table.

10 Q. You just said here. You put a chest
11 roll --

12 A. Down the side.

13 Q. Down the sides of his chest?

14 A. Yeah.

15 Q. Okay. When he is being rolled, do you
16 disconnect the airway?

17 A. Yes. I disconnected the Y piece. I
18 disconnect the Y piece from the endotracheal tube,
19 so that -- because that is the source of traction on
20 the tube. So I -- the tube is taped in place.

21 So I take care of the head, just the head
22 only, and the airway. Okay. So I hold onto it, and
23 we roll the patient over.

24 Q. Okay. Let me ask you about that taping.
25 How did you tape this ET tube in place?

1 A. Okay. We have a tape for it. Okay. And
2 the tube is coming out here.

3 Q. Coming out of the side of his -- sort of
4 the side of his mouth?

5 A. Yeah. I usually have it on the right
6 side.

7 Q. On the right side?

8 A. Yes. And you put a piece of tape here
9 and wind it around the piece. After you listen for
10 equal breath sounds, and it is equal, you have --
11 there are numbers on it.

12 Q. Numbers on the tube?

13 A. Yes. So you know how far it is in, that
14 the breath sounds are equal. So you wind the tape
15 around where it is at the mouth, and then tape it
16 here.

17 Q. To the side of his face?

18 A. Yes. From here, around, and then I put
19 one over it.

20 Q. Okay. So let me see if I can describe
21 that so it comes out on the record. You have a
22 piece of tape that goes basically below the mouth
23 and then comes --

24 A. Around here.

25 Q. On the chin essentially, below the lower

1 lip?

2 A. Yeah. I try not to get this part.

3 Q. Try not to get the lip itself?

4 A. Yeah.

5 Q. Below the lip, around the tube a couple
6 or three times?

7 A. Yeah. Around the mouth and then
8 continues.

9 Q. And then continues to the side of the
10 face?

11 A. Yes. Yes.

12 Q. And is this your standard taping -
13 procedure --

14 A. Yes. Yes.

15 Q. -- for any ET intubation?

16 A. Yes. And especially for prone position,
17 I reinforce it, by putting tapes over, and sometimes
18 I do it twice for people in prone position.

19 Q. How did you do it with Mr. Porter in this
20 case?

21 A. Just the usual way I do my taping for
22 prone position.

23 Q. Did you do it twice?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. You remember that you did it twice?

1 A. Yes, I do.

2 Q. So when you say you did it twice, you
3 repeated the taping procedure, one on top of the
4 other?

5 A. Yeah. And sometimes I put it -- I put a
6 repeat over here.

7 Q. You put a repeat over the top of the
8 mouth?

9 A. Yes. Yes.

10 Q. Did you do that with Mr. Porter?

11 A. Yes. That is my usual for a prone
12 position.

13 Q. Do you remember doing it with Mr. Porter?

14 A. Yes, I do.

15 Q. And the reason that you do extra in the
16 prone position is because you want to guard against
17 the tube coming out?

18 A. In the supine position, you can always
19 put the tube back in. In the prone position, you
20 don't have that option.

21 Q. Okay. But in the prone position -- so
22 because of the fact that you would have a more
23 difficult time getting the tube back in, in the
24 prone position, you want to be extra careful about
25 it not coming out, correct?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. And also in the prone position, just
3 because of the fact that the patient's face is going
4 to be down, the tube itself is more likely to come
5 out than in the supine position, correct?

6 A. Usually in the prone position I put the
7 head on the side, and put a doughnut to protect the
8 ear. For every patient, we tape the eye. But for a
9 prone position, in addition, we put a goggle over
10 the eye, to make sure the eye is protected.

11 a. And with respect to that, even though the
12 face is I guess sort of on the side of the head, is
13 the way the head is positioned?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. The tube can be more easily or can come
16 out more easily than say the supine position where
17 the head is face up?

18 A. No. It depends on how you tape it and
19 how you put the head. You put it on the side, and
20 the tube is coming out here. I think it is just as
21 secure.

22 Q. You think it is just as secure?

23 A. Uh-huh.

24 Q. You have to answer yes.

25 A. If you secure it very well and have the

1 head on the side, yes.

2 Q. Is that something that you learn in
3 preparing to become an anesthesiologist in your
4 residency, that when you have a patient in the prone
5 position, you have to use -- you should use extra
6 taping on the ET tube?

7 A. Everybody has their own way of taping.
8 And every patient has to have a secure airway.
9 Every patient has to be taped well.

10 But you are always with the knowledge
11 that somebody who is supine, I can intubate more
12 easily. Somebody who is not supine is not, so it is
13 on your mind. You take extra -- but, yes, every
14 patient has to be securely taped.

15 Q. Is there a text that you would -- if you
16 wanted to direct somebody like a student or somebody
17 in taping procedures, that you would direct them to?

18 A. No. I mean, everybody has their own
19 way. You observe how different people do their
20 taping. Okay. And through observation, you do what
21 is --

22 Q. Had you ever had a patient in a prone
23 position become extubated during a procedure?

24 A. Never.

25 Q. How about in a supine position?

1 A. No.

2 Q. So just so I am clear about this now, I
3 believe that the only reason that you do extra
4 taping on a patient in the prone position is because
5 of the concern that you might have reintubating,
6 correct?

7 A. Uh-huh.

8 Q. You have to say yes.

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Okay. It is not because of any concern
11 that the tube itself is more likely to come out,
12 correct?

13 A. No.

14 Q. That is correct?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Okay. All right. You say that in moving
17 him over, you are in charge of the head?

18 A. Yes, and the airway.

19 Q. And the airway. Okay. Explain to me how
20 you placed his head -- placed Mr. Porter's head on
21 the operating room table.

22 A. You move them over, and then you turn the
23 head to the side on a doughnut hole. It is a form
24 with a hole in the middle. Okay. And that hole
25 protects the ear, so that you don't cause pressure,

1 so I always keep it on the ear.

2 Q. What side of his face was down?

3 A. I usually put it on the right side,
4 because I have the tube coming out this way. That
5 is what I usually do.

6 Q. Well, what side was it in Mr. Porter? Do
7 you remember?

8 A. I think that -- that is the way I usually
9 do, so I am sure that is the way it was done.

10 Q. Well, my question is do you remember that
11 it was the right side? I understand that it is your
12 usual procedure. I am not quarreling with that. I
13 am just wondering if you actually remember in this
14 case, was his right side of his face down?

15 A. I do not recall exactly, but that is the
16 way -- I do the same routine.

17 Q. I just wondered if there was a difference
18 because they were going to be working on his left
19 leg, I think, whether that made any difference to
20 you.

21 A. No, it doesn't.

22 Q. Okay. Then do you tape the head down to
23 the table?

24 A. **No.**

25 Q. Do you secure the head in any way?

1 A. On the doughnut. He will be lying on the
2 form.

3 Q. The head is lying side down on the foam
4 doughnut, correct?

5 A. Yeah. Uh-huh.

6 Q. Do you tape the head to the doughnut?

7 A. No .

8 Q. And who positions the rest of the body?

9 A. The nurses help position the rest of the
10 body.

11 Q. Okay. Then where do you stand or sit
12 during the procedure?

13 A. At the head of the bed.

14 Q. At the head of the bed?

15 A. Yes. That is where the airway is.

16 Q. Okay. And where are your monitors?

17 A. At the head of the bed.

18 Q. Are you in between the monitors and the
19 bed?

20 A. The bed is here, the monitor is sitting
21 here, and I am sitting here.

22 Q. Okay. This is what I want you to do for
23 me, okay? This is the bed.

24 A. Okay. This is the head of the bed. The
25 patient's head is here.

1 Q. Okay. Make a circle for his head, so we
2 can see.

3 A. The anesthesia machine is to the side
4 here. And I am sitting here, so that I look at the
5 patient, and the monitor is facing -- the monitors
6 are facing this way, so I can observe the patient
7 and then the monitors.

8 Q. Okay. Write in there, put in there
9 Dr. Quansah, so we know that is you. Okay?

10 A. Uh-huh.

11 Q. And write in there this is the anesthesia
12 machine.

13 A. Okay. And the monitors are facing this
14 way, so I can -- my observation goes around from the
15 patient to the monitor.

16 Q. Okay. So you can sort of keep both the
17 monitors and the patient in sight at once?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And the patient -- Mr. Porter would have
20 been facing which way?

21 A. This way.

22 Q. So I put an arrow the way he is facing,
23 okay?

24 A. Uh-huh. Okay. And the monitor sits on
25 top of the anesthesia machine, the Hewlett Packard

1 monitor was on top of the machine,.' And the mask
2 spectrum, that gives the carbon monoxide and so on,
3 it is sitting on a shelf on the anesthesia machine.

4 Q. Say that again, the last part about the
5 mask.

6 A. This is a machine. The Hewlett Packard,
7 that gives the blood pressure, the saturation and
8 the pulse and the EKG is sitting on top of it. And
9 then there is a place here, like a mask spectrum
10 that gives the end title C02.

11 Q. Mask spectrometer?

12 A. That gives the C02. That analyzes the
13 exhaled air.

14 Q. Right.

15 A. It is sitting here.

16 Q. And you can see that, as well?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. You can see all of that from where you
19 are sitting?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And then the tube itself would be coming
22 out of the side of the mouth -- actually it is
23 coming out of the side of the mouth that is down
24 towards the pillow?

25 A. Yes. So what happens is that this is the

1 doughnut. Okay. What I do is I make a tear here.

2 Q. Tear in the doughnut?

3 A. Yeah. Okay. So that the tube comes out
4 flat on the bed.

5 Q. On the bed?

6 A. Uh-huh.

7 Q. Okay. The tape that you talked about,
8 that is what is securing the ET tube in place,
9 correct?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Anything else securing the tube in place?

12 A. Not the tube. The tape.

13 Q. With respect to your charting, where do
14 you keep your anesthesia chart while the procedure
15 is going on?

16 A. On the anesthesia machine, there is a
17 space on top here. And you can put -- actually you
18 draw -- there is a drawer. You draw a flat place.
19 I don't know how to explain it.

20 Q. There is a little drawer that comes out
21 that you can put your --

22 A. Yes, on a clipboard. Or sometimes when I
23 am sitting down, I am holding the clipboard like
24 this, and I watch the patient and watch the
25 monitors.

1 Q. Watch the patient, watch the monitors and
2 chart, right?

3 A. Yes. Uh-huh.

4 Q. You have to say yes.

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Okay. And with respect to the blood
7 pressure, you chart that every five minutes?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Pulse, every five minutes?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. The O2 saturation, how often do you chart
12 that?

13 A. We chart it every five minutes. All
14 these are continuous, but we chart them every five
15 minutes.

16 Q. The monitors are going continuously, but
17 you chart them every five minutes?

18 A. Yes, every five minutes.

19 Q. The end title CO2, how often is that
20 checked?

21 A. It is continuous, but we chart it every
22 five minutes.

23 Q. Did you want to correct something about
24 your charting that you just told me?

25 A. No. What I mean is that you chart the

1 rest of the chart every five minutes, but if you
2 look at the end title C02, there is 15 minutes in
3 totals. You are looking at it as **you** chart, but it
4 appears on this in 15 minute intervals.

5 Q. So the BP you would chart -- for
6 instance, you chart every 5 minutes, the end title
7 C02 you chart every 15 minutes?

8 A. Yeah.

9 Q. Does the monitor make any permanent
10 record?

11 A. The Hewlett Packard makes a record that
12 you can look back and look at previous values. How
13 long it stays in the machine, I don't know.

14 Q. You mean you can look back on it in the
15 machine -- on the machine itself?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Does it print a paper chart?

18 A. It prints.

19 Q. Okay. Have you ever seen a printed chart
20 of -- from the anesthesia machine in this case?

21 A. We tried -- we all tried to print the
22 values, but we could not get it.

23 Q. Why not?

24 A. I don't know if something went wrong with
25 the printer. We all tried. When we quit, one of

1 the nurses tried to take a Polaroid picture of the
2 values on the machine, and it came out dark, so we
3 could not do it.

4 Q. When did that happen? When did somebody
5 try to take a Polaroid picture?

6 A. After the code.

7 Q. After the code?

8 A. Uh-huh. But all the values were in the
9 machine at that time.

10 Q. All of the values were there?

11 A. Uh-huh.

12 Q. You have to answer yes.

13 A. Yes. Yes.

14 Q. And how do you know they were all there?

15 A. The machine, you push patient data, okay,
16 push patient data, and the data comes on. And you
17 can roll back to the beginning of the case, to an
18 hour before. It rolls on this screen. So if you
19 want to make a copy, you can make a copy.

20 Q. So you tried --

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Go ahead. I am sorry. I interrupted.

23 A. No. If you want to, you can make a copy.

24 Q. So after the code, after Mr. Porter is
25 pronounced actually, you punched up the patient

1 data, correct?

2 A. Yes. Me, the nurses and the people in
3 the room, some of us, we tried to print the record.
4 We just could not print the record.

5 Q. But you saw it on the screen?

6 A. Yes. Everybody saw it.

7 Q. Everybody saw it?

8 A. Some of us in the room who could look saw
9 the record, the data.

10 Q. Who saw it?

11 A. The chief of anesthesia was there. He
12 saw it.

13 Q. Who is that?

14 A. And the nurses was there. Dr. Boakye.

15 Q. What nurses saw it?

16 A. Eugenia, (inaudible).

17 Q. Spell that.

18 A. It is in the chart.

19 Q. Who else saw it?

20 A. The risk management lady came in. I
21 think she saw it. I think.

22 Q. So there is a group of people looking
23 at --

24 A. They were looking because we were trying
25 to print it out, and we could not print it out. And

1 someone took a Polaroid camera and was trying to get
2 a picture on the screen as the numbers were, and
3 they could not. It just came out dark. All of the
4 figures were there.

5 Q. So then what happened? What happened to
6 that data?

7 A. I don't know.

8 Q. Did anybody -- while y'all are standing
9 around, does anybody make notes of what the values
10 were?

11 A. Not that I recall.

12 Q. Did you ever find out what was wrong with
13 the machine, that it wouldn't print this data?

14 A. I think it is just a printer, because we
15 don't really use it. Okay? I haven't had an
16 occasion to go back and print it. So we don't
17 usually use this, so I don't know what was wrong
18 with it.

19 Q. Did anybody say, "We need to preserve
20 this data"?

21 A. We left the machine there. We left the
22 room. We closed the room. The data was there until
23 the room was reopened.

24 Q. When was it reopened?

25 A. I think a day, a couple of days. This

1 was Saturday. And it may -- as I told you, I didn't
2 go back to the OR area, but I think it was probably
3 opened Tuesday or so.

4 Q. Who authorized the room to be reopened?

5 A. I don't know.

6 Q. I mean, did you discuss with anyone, we
7 can't reopen that room, because we need to preserve
8 that data?

9 A. I don't make that decision.

10 Q. Did you discuss with anyone that we
11 needed to preserve this data?

12 A. All I know was that I was told the room
13 is not to be used.

14 Q. Who told you that?

15 A. I believe it was a lady from Risk
16 Management.

17 Q. She gets around. What did she tell you?

18 A. All I knew was that she was saying the
19 room cannot be used, okay, for the weekend cases.
20 The room cannot be used.

21 Q. Because you wanted to preserve this data?

22 A. I don't know if it is because of the
23 data, but all I know is that they said the room
24 should not be used.

25 Q. Okay. Well, when did you find out that

1 the room had been used?

2 A. As I said, you know, I was mostly at the
3 OB section, and the preop evaluation clinic. That
4 is where I was the rest of the time. But I come to
5 the doctor's lounge in the OR once in a while, and I
6 believe that sometime during the week the room was
7 being used.

8 Q. Well, weren't you kind of upset that this
9 room was used and now this data was going to be lost
10 forever?

11 MR. TREU: Objection.

12 Q. You can answer.

13 A. The room was left not at my decision,
14 Okay. It was a decision. So whatever they wanted
15 to do with the room, look at the room, look at --
16 what I feel, they probably accomplished what they
17 wanted to do. So that is as far as I know.

18 Q. But did you ever ask anyone, "Hey, did
19 they ever get that printer working to get that data
20 out?"

21 A. No.

22 Q. Never asked anybody?

23 A. No.

24 Q. Anyone ever tell you what happened to
25 that data?

1 A. No.

2 Q. Anyone ever tell you that they weren't
3 able to print it out ever?

4 A. No, they didn't. I didn't ask anybody.

5 Q. Anybody tell you that they were able to
6 print it out?

7 A. I didn't talk to anybody about that
8 data. I don't know whether it was printed or not.

9 Q. I don't really understand how this data
10 works. If you started a new case after Mr. Porter's
11 case, would all of Mr. Porter's data be wiped out?

12 A. No.

13 Q. How long -- you don't know how long it is
14 preserved?

15 A. I don't know how long it keeps. Let's
16 say I start a case at 10:00, and there was a case at
17 7:00. I can go back and get the data from 7:00 to
18 9:00, 10:00. But how long it is kept in the
19 machine, I do not know.

20 Q. But so I am clear, the data that we are
21 talking about would be a continuous recording of the
22 end title C02?

23 A. No. No. No. I am talking about the
24 Hewlett Packard machine, which gives blood pressure,
25 heart rate, oxygen saturation and other monitoring

1 you may do.

2 Q. Okay. Not the end title CO2?

3 A. No.

4 Q. But it would give us a continuous blood
5 pressure reading?

6 A. Uh-huh.

7 Q. Yes?

8 A. Yes. Depending on how often -- you can
9 set it to take blood pressure every minute, every 2
10 minutes, every 5 minutes, you know, every 10
11 minutes, whatever you set it to do, you can get that
12 blood pressure data on the machine.

13 Q. What was it set in Mr. Porter's case?

14 A. I think three minutes.

15 Q. For blood pressure?

16 A. Yes. That is how I usually set my blood
17 pressure data.

18 Q. How about pulse?

19 A. The pulse, it takes continuously, because
20 the pulse oximeter is on all the time.

21 Q. How about O2 saturation?

22 A. Continuously.

23 Q. What else? What else would be in that
24 data?

25 A. What I monitored that the Hewlett Packard

1 would give values would be the blood pressure, the
2 heart rate and the temperature and the pulse
3 oximeter reading.

4 Q. Is there any similar type of data for the
5 end title CO2?

6 MS. HENRY: That you can print out?

7 Q. That you can get.

8 A. I believe what that can give you is a
9 trend at the time, a trend. You can push a button
10 that will give you a trend in graphical terms, but I
11 don't know how it -- it may not give you the figure,
12 but it will give you a trend. It is a graph from
13 the mask spectrometer.

14 Q. Can that be printed out?

15 A. No.

16 Q. It just shows up on your screen?

17 A. Yes, if you want to see the trend during
18 the case.

19 Q. Okay. Looking at your anesthesia record
20 here, I am going to try to get us oriented to time.
21 It appears to start at 9:00?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And that starting point, is that the
24 point that he comes into the OR?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Okay. And at what point is he induced,
2 pursuant to this chart?

3 A. I took the first blood pressure around
4 9:05, so I -- right after that, we had started
5 induction.

6 Q. Okay. And your note says that he is
7 moved to the OR bed in prone position at 9:25.

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Let me just ask you about that remark
10 section. Are you making those notes as the case is
11 going on?

12 A. Yes. Most of them, except for the 9:27,
13 that I put after the 10:00, I put that later.

14 Q. Why is that?

15 A. As you are doing things, you may leave
16 out something, so after I put the 10:00, I put down
17 the 18 gauge IV in the right arm.

18 Q. Why did you do that, put another IV in?

19 A. Because as you can see, the patient's
20 blood pressure is down, is low. The patient, I
21 presumed, was septic and needed more fluid
22 resuscitation, so I felt the one IV was not
23 adequate.

24 Q. Okay. So at 9:27, you add another IV,
25 correct?

1 A. Yes. Yes.

2 Q. And did you get the response you were
3 looking for in terms of his blood pressure?

4 A. It hovered around the same area with
5 anatrope and more fluid. It was hovering around the
6 same area, lower than I wanted it to be. And the
7 heart rate was high. But to me, I presumed it is
8 because the patient was septic.

9 Q. That was your presumption?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Did you discuss that with anybody during
12 this procedure?

13 A. Not at the beginning. Not yet, no. That
14 was for me to take care of. That is my job, so I
15 don't need to discuss with anybody else in the
16 room.

17 Q. Do you know what his BP readings had been
18 since he had been admitted to the hospital?

19 A. When he was admitted, the day he was
20 admitted, his systolic was about 145, 148. Okay?

21 Sometimes you see people in the emergency
22 room who have had trauma, been injured, definitely
23 their blood pressure may be -- unless they have lost
24 a lot of blood, their blood pressure will be higher
25 than normal.

On the floor, he has been between 110 to 130, 120, 130. And his preop blood pressure that was taken on the floor before he was brought down was 110 over 60.

Q. When did you get all of that information about his BP?

A. They do a form. They take his vitals just before they bring them down. During the week, we do that in the preop holding, but on the weekends, for emergency, the nurses on the floor do it just before they bring the patient down. And if you look at this one --

Q. What is it called?

MS. HENRY: Says nursing department preoperative checklist. Sandra Harold or something like that.

A. May I go to the ladies room?

Q. Sure.

(PAUSE)

Q. Okay. I was asking you about the blood pressures. And you referred me to the nursing department preoperative checklist.

A. Yes.

Q. What is it about that checklist that told you about the blood pressure? What are you looking

1 at?

2 A. It says BP 110 over 60.

3 Q. Okay. That was the BP they did up on the
4 floor, right?

5 A. Yes, just before the preoperative vitals.

6 Q. Right. But you were talking before about
7 his BP on admission and so forth, up to the 15th.

8 A. No. You were asking me what his BP has
9 been. And I was just giving you an idea, the
10 chronology.

11 Q. Right. And my question is when did you
12 learn of the BP trend from the time of admission, up
13 to the time of the operation that you were involved
14 in?

15 A. When did I learn of it?

16 Q. Right.

17 A. I reviewed the chart briefly before the
18 surgery. And I knew of -- the previous preop had
19 said BP is 148 over 70, but that was for the first
20 surgery.

21 Q. Right. I mean, did you go through and
22 look at the BP's all the way through?

23 A. I looked at the nurse's chart.

24 Q. The graphic?

25 A. Yes. Yes. I just looked at a trend. I

1 didn't look at individual values.

2 Q. Were you concerned at all about the blood
3 pressure being what it was at the time of your --
4 the surgery you were going to perform anesthesia on?

5 A. No, I was not concerned with 110 over
6 60.

7 Q. Were you aware that there had been a drop
8 in BP that was noted up on the floor earlier in the
9 evening or early morning?

10 A. Blood pressures can vary.

11 Q. My question is were you aware, Doctor?
12 Were you aware of that at the time of the surgery,
13 that there had been a drop in his BP up on the floor
14 that Dr. Ghanma had been notified about?

15 A. That Dr. Ghanma had been -- Dr. Ghanma
16 was notified about his temperature.

17 Q. All I really want to know is whether you
18 were aware of that drop in his blood pressure at the
19 time of your surgery -- not your surgery, the time
20 of the surgery you were going to be involved with?

21 A. I knew it was different. But in the
22 hospital, sometimes you see the patient comes into
23 the office at a time the blood pressure may be
24 high. When the patient relaxes -- so blood
25 pressures can differ with times.

1 As long as it is not -- it doesn't raise
2 a flag like very low. The blood pressure can vary.
3 The first one, 145, was when the patient was
4 injured, in pain, in the emergency room.

5 Q. Did you discuss with anyone, prior to
6 inducing Mr. Porter, the blood pressure trend that
7 he displayed since his admission?

8 A. No, I didn't discuss with anyone.

9 Q. Let me ask you about on your anesthesia
10 record, the end title C02. The first entry you have
11 for that is a 38.

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. What time does that relate to?

14 A. That was after the intubation.

15 Q. Is that the first ETCO2 that you took?

16 A. That was the first one I wrote down.

17 Q. I know that. But is that the first one
18 that you -- is that the one that you check marked
19 ETCO2 present up in the airway management box?

20 A. I don't know if it says the same value,
21 but as soon as I intubate, I mask manually and look
22 at the monitor to make sure I have a tracing right,
23 entire amount to confirm to placement. So at that
24 time, I am not recording. So I cannot say if it is
25 that amount. That one is just checking, confirming

1 my tube placement.

2 Q. Okay. This 38, can you tell me what time
3 period that relates to? Sometime in between 9:15
4 and 9:30?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Or is it 9:15 or is it 9:30?

7 A. All I can tell you right now is sometime
8 between 9:15 and 9:30.

9 Q. And the 36, that is the next one, that
10 relates to sometime in between 9:30 and 9:45?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. And the next 36 that is recorded there
13 relates to sometime between 9:45 and 10:00?

14 A. Uh-huh.

15 Q. You have to say yes.

16 A. Yes.

17 Q- There is a drop in blood pressure that
18 you have recorded at 10:00.

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. A drop in systolic blood pressure, right?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. There was a drop in end title CO2 at the
23 same time as the drop in the blood pressure,
24 correct?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. So that would have been at **10:00**, the
2 ETCO2 dropped?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. From 36 to 10 to **15**?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. What did you attribute that drop in the
7 ETCO2 to?

8 A. It can imply a low cardiac output state
9 with the blood pressure drop and end title CO2 drop.

10 Q. What else can it be a sign of?

11 A. Going through differential diagnosis,
12 without saying exactly what happened to this
13 patient, I can say that it can be -- a pulmonary
14 embolism can give you a drop in end title CO2, but I
15 am not saying this is -- I don't know what happened.

16 Q. I understand. We are talking now just
17 generally about what a drop in end title CO2 can
18 signify, correct?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. That is what you were responding to?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And you said one of them -- one would be
23 low cardiac output?

24 A. Uh-huh.

25 Q. You have to answer yes.

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. One would be a pulmonary embolism?

3 A. Yeah.

4 Q. And another one would be tube
5 displacement?

6 A. No. Tube displacement, you will use the
7 end title C02.

8 Q. You will lose it all together?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. And you didn't lose it all together?

11 A. No, because as soon as I treat it, it
12 came right back up.

13 Q. You treated it after 10:00 or at 10:00?

14 A. I treated the blood pressure.

15 Q. By giving?

16 A. Epinephrin.

17 Q. And the blood pressure came right back?

18 A. Yes. So was the end title C02.

19 Q. When the end title C02 dropped, did you
20 check the placement of the endotracheal tube?

21 A. I treated the blood pressure right away.
22 The end title C02 came up. I listened to the lungs
23 and that was it.

24 Q. You listened to the lungs?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. What did the end title C02 come up to?

2 A. It came up to previously in the 30's.

3 Q. You don't have any end title C02 charted
4 after 10:00 --

5 A. At the time I was busy --

6 Q. Let me finish my question, Doctor, You
7 don't have any end title C02 charted after 10:00,
8 correct?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. So after the point that it dropped, you
11 never charted it again, correct?

12 A. I was busy --

13 Q. Answer my -- Doctor, I understand your --

14 A. -- looking and taking care of the
15 patient, and I didn't want to go back and do it when
16 I didn't do it at the time.

17 Q. I just want to know -- I don't know
18 whether it is in some other part of the chart, so
19 that is why I am asking the question.

20 A. No, I didn't.

21 Q. So after the end title C02 dropped, you
22 didn't chart it after that point, correct?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. You did chart the blood pressure,
25 correct?

1 A. Yes. The blood pressure -- from the time
2 this happened, I was taking care of the patient, I
3 didn't do a charting from that time on. The blood
4 pressure for that time interval and the saturation I
5 got from the Hewlett Packard machine.

6 Q. I am not sure I understand what you are
7 saying, but let me try. You do have after 10:00 on
8 this anesthesia record, blood pressures charted,
9 correct?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And you have pulse charted?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And you have O2 saturation charted?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. And you have temperature charted?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And you have EKG charted?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Now, when did you write that in the
20 chart?

21 A. Those were after the code.

22 Q. After the code?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And you got those off of the --

25 A. Off of the monitor.

1 Q. Off the machine?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. All that data we were talking about
4 before?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. So you sat with the chart, looked at the
7 machine after Mr. Porter is dead, correct?

8 A. Uh-huh.

9 Q. Answer yes, please.

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And wrote in his chart, right?

12 A. Yeah.

13 Q. On his anesthesia record, correct?

14 A. Yeah, just that portion.

15 Q. Everything after 10:00?

16 A. Uh-huh.

17 Q. Correct?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. You have to answer yes. I am sorry I
20 have to keep reminding you.

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. But a year from now -- why didn't you
23 write anything for the end title C02?

24 A. Because that does not show up in the
25 Hewlett Packard machine.

1 Q. But it shows on that other machine, that
2 trend, right?

3 A. It doesn't say the values. I do not want
4 to put down something that I know -- it was in the
5 30's. I don't have the exact amount, okay, so I
6 could not just put it down.

7 Q. But it shows a trend, doesn't it?

8 A. Yeah, it does.

9 Q. After 10:00?

10 A. Uh-huh.

11 Q. Yes?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Did you look at that trend?

14 A. I was looking at the machine throughout
15 the entire data back up to where it was.

16 Q. Did you discuss with anyone that you were
17 going to put these notes or marks on the anesthesia
18 record after the code?

19 A. No, I didn't discuss. These are facts on
20 the machine, so I thought that was okay. The
21 machine keeps the values.

22 Q. Was the patient moved at all during the
23 procedure?

24 A. Not during the procedure, no.

25 Q. Just moved on the table and then flipped

1 later?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. You did when the blood pressure dropped
4 at 10:00 inform Dr. Ghanma, correct?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. What did you tell him?

7 A. I told him that I have a problem with the
8 blood pressure. That was a pretty high drop, so I
9 felt the surgeon had to know that I had having
10 problem with the blood pressure.

11 Q. Did he ask you about terminating the
12 procedure?

13 A. Not that I recall.

14 Q. What did he say when you told him?

15 A. They turned around and looked at me. And
16 then I was treating the patient and the blood
17 pressure came back. End title C02 came back.

18 In my opinion, that surgery wasn't
19 necessary for this patient's life. The patient had
20 sepsis, has an infected leg, has been in Lake
21 Erie.

22 So as soon as the blood pressure came
23 back, I told him it is corrected, and he finished,
24 but he was aware that he needed to finish quickly,
25 and he finished quickly.

1 Q. When did you first notice there was
2 something wrong a second time?

3 A. As soon as the surgery was over. I
4 realized the blood pressure started cycling again.
5 I lost the pulse oximeter reading.

6 Q. You lost the pulse oximeter reading?

7 A. So I felt for the pulse. And that is
8 when I didn't feel any pulse. And the machine, the
9 EKG was showing a V tach, ventricular tachycardia.

10 Q. And what else? What else did you notice?

11 A. The end title was down again.

12 Q. Down to what?

13 A. He wasn't breathing.

14 Q. It was down to zero?

15 A. Almost, not quite zero, but it was real
16 low on the screen.

17 Q. What about the BP?

18 A. It was cycling, because it needed a pulse
19 to get a BP. It was just cycling.

20 Q. I don't know what that is, cycling.

21 A. The machine could not take a blood
22 pressure.

23 Q. Couldn't get one?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. So the ETCO2 was lower than it had been

1 the previous time when it fell, correct?

2 A. Yeah.

3 Q. Was it two? Was it five? What was it?
4 Do you have a recollection?

5 A. At that time, I knew the patient had
6 arrested, and my attention was on the patient.

7 Q. Okay. What time was this?

8 A. As soon as they finished the case,
9 according to the note, it was 10:28.

10 Q. That is according to whose note?

11 A. According to the nurse's note, the case
12 was done at 10:28.

13 Q. So what did you do when this happened?

14 A. I just told them, bring the bed. I give
15 epinephrin. The patient had arrested in a prone
16 position.

17 Q. Do you have to return that call, Doctor?

18 A. No. I turned it off.

19 Q. All right. I asked you what did you do
20 when you noticed at the end of this procedure, what
21 you have told us is the absence of blood pressure?

22 A. I just told the patient has no pulse.

23 Hurry, bring the bed. The patient is in a prone

24 position. We cannot do CPR or anything in a prone

25 position. So I give a dose of epinephrin. At the

1 same time, I scream, "Get the bed into the room."
2 Okay. And then I told somebody to get a crash
3 cart.

4 Q. And then what did you do?

5 A. As I said, I gave the epinephrin. They
6 brought the bed and we turned the patient over onto
7 his bed, onto the stretcher.

8 Q. Who turned him over?

9 A. We all -- the people in the room helped
10 me.

11 Q. Did somebody call a code?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. How **does** that happen? What happens?

14 A. There is a button in the operating room
15 which you can push that will call **it**.

16 Q. Who pushed **it**?

17 A. I have a patient who has arrested. All I
18 know is a code was called. I don't think -- to me,
19 it wasn't important who called the code. My
20 attention was all on the patient.

21 Q. Okay. You could just tell me that you
22 don't know.

23 MS. HENRY: Just say, "I don't
24 know."

25 Q. **How** long did **it** take to get the patient

1 from the prone position onto his back?

2 A. It was quick. As soon -- they rush with
3 the bed, and we turned the patient over right away.

4 Q. Have any problem getting his head turned
5 over?

6 A. No.

7 Q. None at all?

8 A. No.

9 Q. What did you observe when you got the
10 patient back in the supine position?

11 A. To turn the patient over, I disconnect
12 from the ventilator. Okay. I turned the patient
13 over, put the Y piece back on, and try to manually
14 ventilate the patient.

15 And I felt some increased resistance to
16 ventilating the patient. To me, increased
17 resistance can mean a kink in the tube, plugged by
18 mucus, or herniated -- what do you call them? They
19 just escape me. Anything can happen.

20 I did not have the time to troubleshoot
21 what is going on, why I had the increased
22 resistance. I knew the patient was easy to mask
23 ventilate, was easy to intubate, so my decision at
24 the time, take the tube out, mask ventilate and put
25 the tube back in.

1 Q. Okay. Before you flipped the patient
2 over, you disconnected the --

3 A. Y piece. The tube was still in. The Y
4 piece to the -- we do that when we turn a patient,
5 because that is a pull on the tube. Okay. So we
6 disconnect. This is briefly.

7 Q. It takes a second?

8 A. Yeah.

9 Q. And it took a second?

10 A. Yeah.

11 Q. No problem getting the Y piece
12 disconnected, correct?

13 A. No.

14 Q. That is correct?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Did you observe the patient's face?

17 A. Yeah. At that time, the patient had
18 arrested.

19 Q. Was he blue?

20 A. There was -- I am sure there was a
21 change, but I was -- was he completely blue? No. I
22 didn't observe him to be blue.

23 Q. I am trying to get the sequence now
24 again. Did you remove -- after you moved him over
25 onto his back --

1 A. No. No. Right away, after we moved him,
2 the patient was not blue.

3 a. I am asking about something else.

4 A. Okay.

5 Q. When you got him over on his back, the Y
6 piece had been removed, correct?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Was the tape still in place?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Had it been -- had the tape been moved at
11 all?

12 A. Not that I recall.

13 Q. Was the tube -- did the tube appear to be
14 in place?

15 A. It did, but I had a problem with
16 ventilating. It could be endobronchial. There
17 could be a kink. There could be blockage by mucus
18 clot. It could be anything. It could be a
19 decreased compliance of the lungs from any sort of
20 disease, like --

21 MS. HENRY: He just wants to know,
22 Doctor, was the tube in place, from what you could
23 see?

24 A. Oh, yes.

25 Q. From what you could see?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. One of the things you could -- that could
3 be a reason why you had difficulty in pressure --
4 let me ask it this way.

5 One of the things that can cause extra
6 resistance in bagging is that the tube is not in
7 place, correct?

8 A. Yeah. It is possible. From the moving,
9 you know, moving the patient over, but it wasn't
10 there before.

11 Q. What wasn't there before?

12 A. The pressure, the ventilator pressure.
13 Everything was fine.

14 Q. So you elected to remove the tube?

15 A. Uh-huh.

16 Q. And then reintubate, correct?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Let me jump out of sequence here and go
19 back to when he was first intubated. Was an x-ray
20 done to check the placement of the tube?

21 A. We do not do x-ray in the operating room
22 to check placement of tube, because end title C02 is
23 the equal for checking placement of endotracheal
24 tube.

25 Q. So the answer is no then?

1 A. No.

2 Q. What happened when you reintubated?

3 A. What happened when I reintubated? He had
4 breath sounds, but we still could not get end title
5 c02.

6 Q. He did have breath sounds?

7 A. From squeezing.

8 Q. From squeezing?

9 A. Uh-huh.

10 Q. But no end title C02, which would
11 indicate no real exchange of gas?

12 A. Yeah.

13 Q. I don't know if under the circumstances
14 you can give any kind of time sequence, but if we
15 start at 10:28 as being the time when the procedure
16 ended, and this is the point at which you noticed
17 the problems, correct?

18 A. Uh-huh.

19 Q. You have to answer yes.

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. At what point did you -- how long was it
22 before you extubated the patient?

23 A. Right after we turned the patient over
24 and I realized the increased resistance in bagging
25 him, I just took out the air and then took the tube

1 out. And we have the mask sitting right there,
2 because I used that and put the mask on and started
3 bagging the patient.

4 Q. How many minutes?

5 A. It is not minutes. In ventilating the
6 patient, it was just right after I removed the tube,
7 put the mask on. But I need to get enough oxygen in
8 the patient's system before I do a laryngoscopy to
9 put the tube back in. That is what I did.

10 Q. I mean, can you say that -- let's go to
11 the point that you intubated him. What time was it
12 when you intubate -- reintubated him? Do you have
13 any idea?

14 A. I can't tell you the exact minute, but
15 the patient was being ventilated all the time before
16 the intubation.

17 Q. Would it be within a matter of minutes of
18 the time of the noticed arrest? Within minutes of
19 10:28 a.m.?

20 A. Yeah.

21 Q. Did you say anything to anybody in the
22 room about, "I am going to extubate him now"?

23 A. No.

24 Q. When you decided to extubate him, was one
25 of the things you were thinking, that the tube might

1 not be in place?

2 A. I knew there was something causing the
3 increased resistance, and I didn't know what, so I
4 just took the tube out, I was thinking a plug or a
5 kink or anything, so I just took the tube out.

6 And I usually have two tubes on the
7 machine. So I took that tube out and took the other
8 one for the intubation.

9 Q. My specific question was, when you
10 extubated him, was one of the things that you
11 considered the possibility that that tube was not in
12 an appropriate place?

13 A. I said it is possible, but what was
14 higher on my mind was there may be a kink or a plug
15 or anything in the tube.

16 Q. The reintubation, how did that go? Was
17 it an easy reintubation?

18 A. Uh-huh.

19 Q. You have to answer yes.

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. First attempt?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And then you put the bag on, correct?

24 A. Connected it to the Y piece and manually
25 ventilate with the bag. And that is what I was

1 doing with the mask also.

2 Q. What was the result when you were
3 manually bagging after you had reintubated? Was the
4 pressure relieved?

5 A. Yeah.

6 Q. And you were getting breath sounds?

7 A. Uh-huh. Yes.

8 Q. What did you in your mind consider to be
9 the problem at that point?

10 A. All I know is that there has been a
11 catastrophic event to cause an arrest. What caused
12 the patient to arrest, I can't tell you.

13 a. Why do you think that you were getting
14 pressure with the tube -- the original tube and not
15 getting pressure with the reintubation?

16 A. I feel it is possible when we turned him
17 over that the tube may have been endobronchial. But
18 let me tell you. Sometimes when the tube is
19 dislodged, what you get is decreased pressure. You
20 don't always get increased pressure. Most of the
21 time it is decreased resistance when the tube is
22 dislodged.

23 a. So what does that mean? I don't know
24 what you are alluding to.

25 A. What I mean is that the tube was possibly

1 in, may have been kinked, may have been
2 endobronchial, but it possibly -- possibly it wasn't
3 out of place.

4 It was a decision I had to make at the
5 time, knowing the patient could be ventilated by
6 mask all right. The patient can be tubed easily.
7 And that was an instant decision I made at the time.

8 Q. For --

9 A. I had to make a decision on how to treat
10 the patient. And that was the best thing to me.
11 That was a good decision to make.

12 Q. When you extubated him, did you notice a
13 kink in the tube?

14 A. I just took out the tube and started
15 masking him.

16 Q. Did you notice a kink in the tube?

17 A. I did not observe.

18 Q. A kink?

19 A. No. I did not observe a kink.

20 Q. Did you observe a mucus plug?

21 A. I did not observe.

22 Q. Do you know if anybody checked those
23 tubes to see whether -- that tube, I mean, to see
24 whether it had a kink in it?

25 A. No, not as far as I know.

1 Q. Do you know if anyone checked it to see
2 if there was a mucus -- evidence of a mucus plug?

3 A. Not as far as I know.

4 Q. For a period of time after you extubated
5 him, you just directly ventilated him with a mask,
6 correct?

7 A. Yes, sir.

8 Q. What did you get when you did that?

9 A. I get rise in chest, you know, the air
10 was going in, because I was busy ventilating. My
11 one hand was on the mask, one hand was manually
12 bagging the patient.

13 Q. Were you getting any exchange of gas, or
14 at that point you wouldn't know --

15 A, I know I was ventilating him. I was -- I
16 know I was ventilating him. But at the time, I
17 don't think there was any circulation.

18 Q. But at that point, when you are doing it
19 just with the mask and the bag --

20 A. We were also treating him. I told you a
21 V tach and the patient was without pulse. I called
22 for the crash cart. We just -- we defibrillated him
23 once, and then it was more like EMD systole, so that
24 wasn't indicated anymore, and we were doing CPR and
25 giving him epinephrin. All of this was going on.

1 Q. How long did you ventilate him before --
2 after the extubation, before you intubated him?

3 A. As long as I felt it was necessary to get
4 some oxygen in before I take the time to do a
5 laryngoscopy.

6 Q. After you reintubated him, was a chest
7 x-ray taken?

8 A. That was later on in the code.

9 Q. Were you still there at that point?

10 A. Yes, I was.

11 Q. Did you participate throughout the code?

12 A. Uh-huh. I was participating in the room.

13 Q. Did there come a point in the resuscitation
14 efforts that you -- other people took over for you?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. When was that?

17 A. Somebody took over the manual ventilation
18 after I had done it -- I took it about an hour and a
19 half. Sometimes we take turns to do things when a
20 person has been doing it for a long time. You need
21 fresh hands to come in and continue doing it.

22 Q. Did you remain in the OR until the code
23 was over?

24 A. Yes, sir.

25 Q. Why was the chest x-ray taken?

1 A. I do not know who ordered the chest
2 x-ray. Dr. Sacka was running the code --

3 MS. HENRY: Do you know why? Who
4 ordered it or why it was taken? Yes or no?

5 A. No.

6 Q. You don't know why it was taken?

7 A. No.

8 Q. While the resuscitation was going on,
9 were people asking you questions about what had
10 happened?

11 A. Yes, sir.

12 Q. Was blood drawn from the patient during
13 the resuscitation efforts?

14 A. Uh-huh. Yes.

15 Q. Do you know who drew the blood?

16 A. No.

17 Q. Do you know if there was any difficulty
18 drawing the blood?

19 A. To get a blood gas, you have -- yes,
20 because to get a blood gas, you have to feel a
21 pulse. And when the patient is pulseless, it is
22 difficult to draw a blood gas.

23 Q. Were they able to draw blood?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Arterial blood?

1 A. We don't know.

2 Q. Why don't you know?

3 A. It is not clear. The blood was dark. It
4 is not clear if it is venous or arterial.

5 Q. Was this like a med technician or
6 something that was drawing his blood, or a nurse?

7 A. I don't know who drew the blood.

8 Q. What was the purpose of drawing the
9 blood?

10 A. To check the blood gases, oxygenation, pH
11 and all of that.

12 Q. How many times was blood drawn?

13 MS. HENRY: Do you know?

14 A. I don't know, but from the values, it
15 looks like I see one blood gas. Whether more was
16 drawn, I don't know.

17 Q. There is two blood gas readings.

18 A. Okay. Then two was done.

19 Q. Well, I have seen situations where one
20 sample is run twice, and they list two readings. Do
21 you know --

22 MS. HENRY: How many draws there was?

23 A. I don't know.

24 Q. Were the results of the blood gas called
25 back **up** to the room while you were there?

1 A. They usually do, but there was so much
2 going on.

3 Q. Do you recall anyone discussing the blood
4 gases during the resuscitation?

5 A. I don't recall.

6 Q. You know the results that were recorded
7 now. When did you learn of those results?

8 A. After the code.

9 Q. What was your conclusion regarding those
10 results?

11 A. There wasn't oxygenation. There wasn't
12 anything exchange. PO2 was very low.

13 Q. Did you discuss those blood gas results
14 with anyone?

15 A. No.

16 Q. Aside from anything that may have been
17 said in your quality assurance meeting, did you
18 discuss those at any time with anybody?

19 A. No.

20 Q. Doctor, do you have an explanation for
21 the PO2 results that were reported for Mr. Porter at
22 10:45 and 11:08 on the 15th?

23 MS. HENRY: What do you mean by an
24 explanation? She said earlier there wasn't much
25 exchange of gas.

1 Q. I am asking whether you can explain how
2 Mr. Porter got to those levels.

3 A. 10:45 is almost 20 minutes after the
4 patient arrested, and there was no exchange, not
5 much exchange.

6 Q. According to your anesthesia note, the
7 patient was getting 100 percent O2 saturation --

8 A. No. No. Sorry. Go on.

9 a. Between 10:15 and 10 -- between 10:00 and
10 10:15, correct?

11 A. Yes, sir.

12 Q. Do you think it is feasible that a
13 patient could go from getting 100 percent O2
14 saturation, down to a PO2 of 9 at 10:45?

15 A. The patient has arrested. He is not
16 perfusing. The patient is not perfusing.

17 Q. My question is do you think it is
18 possible to get from the O2 saturation level that
19 you have charted between 10:00 and 10:15, down to a
20 level of 9 at 10:45?

21 A. All I can tell you is what happened.

22 Q. I understand you are telling me what
23 happened, but as a physician, do you think that is
24 possible?

25 A. The patient has arrested for 20 minutes

1 -- almost 20 minutes.

2 Q. So you think it is possible?

3 A. Yeah.

4 Q. If it was venous blood instead of
5 arterial blood, how would this affect these
6 readings?

7 A. The PO2 would be much lower, because a
8 normal PO2 in venous blood is 40. In arterial blood
9 it can be anywhere from 97 to 100, so it is also
10 possible it was venous blood.

11 Q. Would the standard difference in readings
12 be -- is there a standard difference in readings
13 between venous and arterial?

14 A. Oh, yes.

15 Q. I mean, I know there is a difference, but
16 can you say well, it is five -- the difference is
17 five?

18 A. It depends on how much oxygen you are
19 giving to the patient, but normal -- the standard
20 PO2 is about 40. Arterial blood is anywhere from
21 90, 97 to 100 for breathing room air.

22 Q. After the resuscitation efforts ceased,
23 Mr. Porter was declared dead?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. It was at that point that you got some of

1 these values that you put in your anesthesia record
2 off the machine?

3 A. Only those I could get off the machine.

4 Q. And I noticed that your values after
5 10:00 go up to 10:15 and stop on your anesthesia
6 record, correct?

7 A. On the record that I did, yes.

8 Q. Why does it stop at 10:15?

9 A. Sometimes the time -- I don't know why I
10 stopped at 10:15, but I am sure the values were
11 there after the time we turned the patient over.

12 Q. Because the procedure --

13 A. I may not have recorded everything,
14 because after the patient was pronounced, there was
15 just so much going on, I put some of it down, but
16 the patient was okay until the patient coded.

17 Q. Well, here is my problem, Doctor. You go
18 back after the procedure, after the patient is
19 pronounced dead, and you put in values from 10:00 to
20 10:15, and then you stop. And the procedure went on
21 to 10:28, correct?

22 A. As I remember, I don't know if that is
23 what happened. I was told I had a call from the
24 assistant coroner, so I left the room while I was
25 doing this to answer the phone call.

1 I do not know if that was the time I
2 stopped doing the recording, but I got on the phone
3 and was talking to the assistant coroner, and I
4 didn't go back again to do anything.

5 Q. Are you just speculating that this may
6 have been what interrupted you --

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. -- or do you know that?

9 A. It is possible.

10 Q. Okay.

11 A. You should note my frame of mind. I was
12 working on this, I got a call. I had to come out
13 and pick up the phone and talk to the assistant
14 coroner on the phone. He wanted to know what had
15 happened. So I left the room, and then I didn't go
16 back to my recording.

17 Q. Who is the assistant coroner?
18 Dr. Madis? Who is the coroner?

19 A. No. It is not Dr. Madis. It wasn't
20 Dr. Madis. This guy was also a family physician at
21 the hospital. I don't remember his name. If I get
22 some names, I can become familiar.

23 Q. There were values on the machine leading
24 up to the arrest at 10:28, correct?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. And for some reason, either you got
2 interrupted, or we don't know, for some reason you
3 didn't record those values after 10:15, correct?

4 A. Uh-huh.

5 Q. You have to answer yes.

6 A. Oh, boy. Yes.

7 Q. Well, did anyone ask you, "Hey, Dr. Quansah,
8 what happened between 10:15 and 10:28?" Anyone ever
9 ask you that?

10 A. No.

11 Q. When did you write your note in the
12 progress notes that is dated 7-15-95?

13 A. After the whole event.

14 Q. Was that before or after you made the
15 notes in the anesthesia record that we talked about
16 after 10:00?

17 A. After I came back -- after I left the
18 room to talk to the assistant coroner, and then I
19 went and sat in the doctor's lounge and wrote the
20 note.

21 Q. Okay. Was anyone with you when you wrote
22 this note?

23 A. No.

24 Q. Did you discuss your note with anybody?

25 A. No.

1 Q. When did you write your addendum?

2 A. Right away. After I signed the note and
3 read over it, I realized that I hadn't added
4 anything on taking the tube out, so I put the
5 addendum right away.

6 Q. Did you have a discussion with the risk
7 manager about that addendum?

8 A. No, sir.

9 Q. Did you have a discussion with the risk
10 manager about the placement of the tube at all?

11 A. No.

12 Q. How long did you talk to the assistant
13 coroner?

14 A. I was on the phone -- he was asking me
15 what had happened. And I told him I didn't -- I
16 can't tell you exactly how many minutes. He just
17 was asking me questions.

18 Q. And do you know, was he taking notes of
19 this? Do you know?

20 A. I don't know. He was on the phone.

21 Q. Was he recording it? Do you know?

22 A. I don't know.

23 Q. What did you tell him?

24 A. I just told him what has happened in the
25 operating room.

1 Q. And after your discussion with the
2 coroner, you went back into the operating room?

3 A. I went to the doctor's lounge and sat
4 down and wrote my notes.

5 Q. I thought before you said that you went
6 back in. Okay. Did you have the whole chart with
7 you when you wrote this note?

8 A. No.

9 Q. What did you have? Just three blank
10 sheets of paper?

11 A. No. I had the preop report and the preop
12 -- the nurse's sheets. Things were not put
13 together. I didn't have the code note. I didn't
14 have anything. I just had my preop.

15 Q. You had your preop note, correct?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And that is all?

18 A. That is what I recall I had.

19 Q. What about your anesthesia note? Where
20 was that when you were writing your --

21 A. Yeah, I had my anesthesia record.

22 Q. Did you have any conversation with the
23 risk manager in the operating room?

24 A. All I recall was her mentioning that we
25 should not use the room.

1 Q. That conversation you told us about
2 before?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And when did that conversation take
5 place?

6 A. After the code, in front of the OR room.

7 Q. Do you know how the risk manager was
8 called up to this operating room?

9 A. I think --

10 MS. HENRY: Do you know?

11 A. I don't know.

12 Q. Has anyone told you how she got up there?

13 A. No.

14 Q. Was there a procedure in place for the
15 risk manager to respond to something like this?

16 A. Maybe --

17 MS. HENRY: Do you know?

18 A. I don't know.

19 Q. Did the risk manager tell you anything
20 about another case involving an endotracheal tube at
21 this hospital?

22 A. That was later when I went up to her and
23 wanted a copy of the patient's chart. Some few days
24 later. But I had -- okay.

25 Q. When did you go? A couple of days --

1 MS. HENRY: When did you go?

2 A. This happened Saturday. Probably
3 Tuesday.

4 Q. You went up to her office?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. What did you go up to her office for?

7 A. I wanted a copy of the patient's chart.

8 Q. Why did you want a copy of the patient's
9 chart?

10 A. Some event has happened and I needed to
11 have a chart for my record.

12 Q. Okay. What did she tell you about this
13 other case?

14 MR. TREU: Objection.

15 Q. Go ahead.

16 A. Just what happened, and that the patient
17 passed in the OR, and there was a lawsuit. That was
18 about it.

19 Q. It involved questions about an
20 endotracheal tube?

21 MR. TREU: Objection.

22 A. No. There was no mention of endotracheal
23 tube.

24 Q. She just said, "We have got another case
25 where somebody died in the OR"?

1 A. Uh-huh.

2 MR. TREU: Objection.

3 Q. You have to say yes.

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Did she tell you anything about your
6 charting?

7 A. No.

8 MR. TREU: Objection.

9 Q. Did anyone discuss with you prior to your
10 writing your note, your anesthesia note that is in
11 the progress notes, that this death could be
12 attributed to extubation?

13 A. No.

14 Q. Has anyone ever discussed that with you?

15 A. No.

16 Q. You have obviously gone over these events
17 in your mind many times, haven't you?

18 A. Yes, sir.

19 Q. And you have gone over the records?

20 A. Yes, sir.

21 Q. You have a copy of the complete chart
22 with you, don't you?

23 A. Yeah.

24 Q. I mean, all the -- you have it in your
25 office or something?

1 A. In my home,

2 Q. Is it possible, Doctor, that the
3 endotracheal tube came out of place while Mr. Porter
4 was in the prone position?

5 A. No, sir. If it had, the patient would
6 have -- something would have happened. The patient
7 was paralyzed. If the tube had come out of place,
8 this would have happened long before.

9 Q. What do you mean it would have happened
10 long before?

11 A. It is not possible for the patient to
12 have gone on for a while, almost one and a half
13 hours paralyzed with endotracheal tube not in
14 place. That is not possible, sir.

15 Q. No, I am not suggesting it is possible,
16 but it wasn't in for an hour and a half. What I am
17 asking, isn't it possible that this endotracheal
18 tube came out of place at some point towards the end
19 of the procedure while he was in the prone position?

20 A. No, sir. The end title CO2 came right
21 back. I listened to the lungs. There was a pulse
22 oximeter reading. No, sir.

23 Q. You are referring to the 10:00 drop,
24 aren't you?

25 A. Yes. Yes.

1 Q. I am referring to a time after 10:00,
2 closer in point in time to 10:28.

3 A. No, sir. Nothing could have happened to
4 have moved the tube out of place. The patient was
5 not moved. Nothing happened. I look. I am very
6 attentive in the operating room.

7 Q. I mean, for the tube to be out of place,
8 it only has to move a small amount?

9 A. No. The tube was taped very securely.
10 The end title CO2, the capnograph is sensitive. I
11 would have noticed.

12 Q. What you are saying is that if it had
13 come out, you would have noticed it, right?

14 A. Yes, sir. Yes.

15 Q. I mean, but is there anything --

16 A. Alarms would have buzzed. And I have a
17 capnograph right in front of me. And with the
18 patient, I am watching. I am watching my monitors.
19 I am watching the patient. No, sir, nothing came
20 out.

21 Q. What alarm would have gone off?

22 A. The ventilator alarm. You are not
23 ventilating the patient, and the capnograph alarm
24 will go off.

25 Q. What do they do when they go off? Do

1 they buzz or beep?

2 A. Yeah, they buzz. It is loud. You can
3 hear it.

4 Q. Well, is there anything in the record
5 between **10:15** and **10:28** to tell us what the status
6 of Mr. Porter's ETCO2 was?

7 MS. HENRY: Is there anything in the
8 records?

9 A. I said this is my anesthesia record, and
10 that is what you see.

11 Q. And there is nothing on your anesthesia
12 record to tell us what was happening with his blood
13 pressure from **10:15** -- actually let's back **up**.
14 Strike that.

15 With respect to the end title C02, there
16 is nothing in your anesthesia record to tell us
17 anything about it after 10:00, correct?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And with respect to the blood pressure,
20 there is nothing in your record to tell us what was
21 happening with his blood pressure after **10:15**,
22 correct?

23 A. Yes, sir. I wish we could have gotten
24 that printout, but nothing -- there was -- the
25 machine would have alarmed and everybody in the room

1 would have known.

2 Q. Nothing with respect to his pulse after
3 10:00 -- 10:15, correct, in your records?

4 A. Sir, there was a pulse. I was there.

5 MS. HENRY: He just wants to know in
6 your record.

7 A. No.

8 Q. When is the last time that you made any
9 notation in Mr. Porter's chart anywhere?

10 A. Usually all of the anesthesia record
11 is --

12 MS. HENRY: When is the last time you
13 made any notation?

14 A. In the chart itself?

15 MS. HENRY: Which would include --
16 yes. You are talking about the addendum, too?

17 MR. LANSLOWNE: Right.

18 A. That was it.

19 Q. This would be the day after when you were
20 in the -- or the day of his death when you were in
21 the --

22 A. The doctor's lounge. I had no access to
23 the chart after that.

24 Q. Did you make any notations anywhere else,
25 outside the record, about Mr. Porter, after that

1 time?

2 A. No, sir.

3 Q. Did you have any other discussions with
4 anybody from the coroner's office after July 15th?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Who did you have discussions with?

7 A. I talked to Dr. Madis.

8 Q. When?

9 A. I think the day after the autopsy.

10 Q. Did he call you or did you call him?

11 A. I called him.

12 Q. What did you discuss?

13 A. I just asked him what his findings were.

14 Q. Anything else?

15 A. No.

16 Q. Did you ever have any discussions with
17 anybody from the Porter family?

18 A. No.

19 Q. Who is the chief that you mentioned?
20 Sacka?

21 A. He is a cardiologist.

22 Q. He is the one who was -- he is one of the
23 people that was in the room when the code was --

24 A. He came later.

25 Q. Did you have a discussion with him later

1 after July 15th about this patient?

2 A. No. Not outside.

3 Q. Not outside what?

4 A. We already mentioned it. I am not
5 supposed to.

6 Q. Let me just take a few minutes here to go
7 back over my notes.

8 MS. HENRY: If you want to ask
9 anything, Don.

10 MR. SWITZER: No, I don't have any
11 questions.

12 MS. HENRY: Kris?

13

14

EXAMINATION

15 BY MR. TREU:

16 Q. Just one or two, Doctor. First just let
17 me ask you, do you have any criticisms of any of the
18 other people taking care of Mr. Porter?

19 A. No, sir.

20 Q. That would include any of the doctors,
21 any of the nurses?

22 A. No, sir.

23 Q. I wanted to ask you. When you saw
24 Mr. Porter preoperatively, did you do any kind of an
25 examination of him at that time?

1 A. Can you explain?

2 Q. Did you do any kind of a physical
3 examination of him?

4 A. I checked his airway. That is all.

5 Q. You did not check the rest of his
6 anatomy?

7 1 A. No.

8 Q. All right. You mentioned to us that when
9 you tried to get him to move **up** on the bed, that he
10 complained of pain in his leg?

11 A. Yes, sir.

12 Q. Did he ever complain to you of pain in
13 the abdominal area?

14 A. No, sir.

15 Q. That is all I have. Thank you.

16 MS. HENRY: Dennis?

17

18 FURTHER EXAMINATION

19 BY MR. LANSLOWNE:

20 Q. Do you have to -- in a patient under
21 anesthesia that you have got the tube taped in, do
22 you continuously check the tape yourself?

23 A. Not all the time. We just check -- I
24 don't check the tape all the time. Usually when
25 they are supine, you can see the tape. But what 1

1 continue checking is the ears, eyes and hand
2 position, to make sure that everything is okay,
3 there is no unnecessary bending of the arm or
4 anything.

5 Q. Does saliva loosen the tape?

6 A. Yes, it is possible, but only around the
7 area you see saliva go by, but the tape is all the
8 way and wound around.

9 Q. Is that one of the things that you watch
10 for, saliva loosening the tape?

11 A. Yes. I see saliva when it comes out, but
12 I don't think in this case it was saliva coming
13 out.

14 Q. I am sorry again on this timing. The
15 conversation that you had with the risk manager
16 about not using that room, was that before or after
17 you wrote your note?

18 A. Before. Just when I was passing, she was
19 saying the room should not be used, but that was the
20 extent of the conversation.

21 Q. The nurses that were involved in this
22 procedure, did you have any discussions with them
23 after July 15th about what had happened?

24 A. I don't recall.

25 Q. When you went to see the risk manager a

1 couple of days later, did you discuss with her that
2 the room was now -- had been used?

3 A. No, sir. No.

4 Q. Did you discuss with her anything about
5 the data being lost?

6 A. I don't recall discussing that.

7 Q. It just seems to me that this data would
8 really clarify a lot of things about what happened,
9 wouldn't it?

10 A. I wish we could have printed it. We just
11 couldn't. We got a tape from another room, put it
12 in the machine, tried. And as I told you, the
13 nurses tried to use a Polaroid to get it, and we
14 just couldn't get it. I wish the data was here,
15 too.

16 Q. Right. I mean, I just imagine that you
17 would have talked to somebody who said, "Why can't
18 we preserve that data," not just printing it, why
19 can't we prevent anybody from using those machines
20 until we have established exactly what happened?
21 Did you have any conversation --

22 A. Sir, if you have been in my position and
23 know how I felt at that time, you know, to me, I
24 tried as much as possible to get the data and I
25 couldn't.

1 Q. When you say you tried as much as
2 possible, what do you mean?

3 A. Like trying to print it and somebody
4 using the Polaroid to try to take a picture of the
5 data.

6 MS. HENRY: Come on Dennis. Don't
7 belabor this.

8 Q. I know you tried really hard, but
9 somebody is dead and we have got to find out what
10 happened.

11 A. I know.

12 Q. This really distresses me.

13 MS. HENRY: She can't give you the
14 data because she doesn't have it from the machine,
15 the printout. I don't know what else she can tell
16 you about this.

17 Q. When you had the data in front of you,
18 you started recording it into your anesthesia note,
19 correct?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And then for the last minutes of the
22 procedure, you stopped recording it, correct? And
23 now we have to go by your memory, right? Is that
24 basically what we are left with as far as these
25 critical minutes towards the end of the procedure?

1 A. Sir, all I know is that a patient was
2 breathing. The patient was ventilated. Alarms
3 would have sounded. The whole room would have heard
4 it. The capnograph is a very sensitive indicator of
5 what is going on. It will measure the entire CO2.
6 It alarms when it is not measuring. And everything
7 happened as soon as they finished the case. And
8 there were people in the room.

9 Q. I just want to -- so if this ever comes
10 up. You have no opinion as to what caused
11 Mr. Porter's death, correct?

12 A. No, sir.

13 Q. Okay. That is all I have.

14 MS. HENRY: We will read it, just to
15 be sure that we have it taken down properly, if it
16 is transcribed. Thank you.

17 (WITNESS EXCUSED)

18

19

20

21

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23

24

25

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
FOR THE STATE OF OHIO
COUNTY OF LORAIN

HUBERT PORTER, ADMINISTRATOR
OF THE ESTATE OF
BRAD J. PORTER, DECEASED

VS.

NO. 96 CV 115689

MANHAL A. GHANMA, M.D.,
ET AL

COURT REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
ORAL DEPOSITION OF DR. ARABA B. QUANSAH
Taken November 16, 1996

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1 I, Debra D. Guthrie, Certified Shorthand
2 Reporter for The State of Texas, do hereby certify
3 that I am the deposition officer before whom this
4 deposition was given; that the witness was duly
5 sworn by me; that the transcript is a true record of
6 the testimony given by the witness; that my charges
7 for preparation of the completed original deposition
8 transcript and any exhibits thereto are:

Original Deposition \$ 630.65
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To Be Paid By Hon. Dennis R. Lansdowne - PUF

8 I further certify that the original deposition was:

9 ☒ Hand-delivered or sent via First Class Mail
10 to Hon. Deirdre G. Henry, attorney of record, on
11 the date shown on the bottom of this Court Reporter's
12 Certificate, for obtaining the signature of the witness

13 ☐ I further certify that the witness failed
14 to sign and return the original deposition within 20
15 days, and that a copy of the deposition may be used
16 in lieu of the original.

17 ☒ I further certify that the witness signed
18 and returned the original deposition, and that the
19 original deposition, along with any corrections or
20 changes thereto, was hand-delivered or sent via
21 First Class Mail to the attorney who asked the first
22 question appearing in the transcript for safekeeping
23 and use at trial.

24 I further certify that a copy of this Certificate
25 was served on all parties to the lawsuit made known
to me at the time of the deposition, and filed with
the Clerk of the Court in which the case is pending.

Witness my hand this 3rd day of December,
1996.

Debra D. Guthrie
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 2 COUNTY OF _____)

3 I hereby certify that I have read the foregoing
 4 deposition, and that this deposition is a true
 5 record of my testimony given at this deposition,
 6 together with any changes or corrections that I have
 7 indicated in the spaces provided below and the
 8 reasons for the changes. (DO NOT MAKE CORRECTIONS ON
 9 THE TRANSCRIPT. USE BACK SIDE OF PAGE IF NECESSARY)

7	PAGE	LINE	CHANGE OR CORRECTION	REASON FOR CHANGE
8	-	-	-	-
9	-	-	-	-
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21
 22
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 DEPONENT

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me by the said
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February 7, 1997

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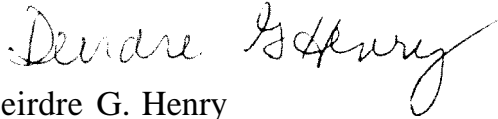
RE: *Hubert Porter, Admin., v. Manhal Ghanma, M.D., et al.*
Our File No. 01087-17373

Dear Ms. Lancaster:

You provided Dr. Quansah with her deposition. She has had the opportunity to review this and has made the changes / corrections to the transcript. These are set forth in the three page Affidavit which has been signed and notarized.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Very truly yours,


Deirdre G. Henry

DGH/ljl
Enclosure

cc: Mr. Dennis Lansdowne, w/encl.
Mr. Donald Switzer, w/encl.
Mr. Kris Treu, w/encl.

CV 115689

Plen to Co. Ohio

3-11-97

Let messsage we need entire depo - gave copy of
Correct to Debra

STATE OF TEXAS)	ss:	<u>AFFIDAVIT</u>
COUNTY OF DALLAS			

I, hereby certify that I have read the foregoing deposition, and that **this** deposition is a true record of my testimony given at this deposition, together with any changes or corrections that I have indicated in the spaces provided below.

<u>PAGE</u>	<u>LINE</u>	<u>CHANGE / CORRECTION</u>
4	11	"wait" should be "waited"
4	13	"Brinmar" should be "Bryn Maw"
4	23	"Brinmar" should be "Bryn Maw"
5	22	"Michigan" should be "Miami"
6	23	"locum-tenency" should be "locum tenens"
7	8	"Compel Corn" should be "Comp Health/Kron"
8	5	"premed" should be "Premier"
9	23	"the" should be "their"
13	3	"Ghana Dominican Republic" should be "Dominican Republic"
13	22	"July" should be "August"
13	23	"middle" should be "end"
14	11	"October 18, '95" should be "October 13, '95"
15	13	"locum-tendancy" should be "locum tenens"
15	15	"opened" should be "open"
15	21	"Nation Wide" should be "Nationwide"
16	5	"locum tenancy" should be "locum tenens"
16	9	"locum tenancy" should be "locum tenens"
16	17	"locum-tenant" should be "locum tenens"
17	5	"February" should be "September"
20	8	"Hays" should be "Hazen"
23	8	"preop" should be "peri-op"
24	15	"places" should be "colleagues"
27	18	"IND" should be "I&D"
28	7	"morning test" should be "monitors"
28	18	"IND" should be "I&D"

PAGE LINE**CHANGE / CORRECTION**

31	4	"Ritalin" should be "Reglan"
31	12	"Biodman" should be "Boydman"
32	25	"Biodman" should be "Boydman"
42	7	"tonsil palate" should be "tonsillar pillars"
45	17	"polarizing" should be "depolarizing"
49	10-11	"tubal curari" should be "tubocurarine"
49	14	"curari" should be "tubocurari"
49	15	"curari" should be "tubocurari"
50	14	"nitros" should be "nitrous"
51	15	"endotracheal tube" should be "y-piece"
51	17	"monoxide" should be "dioxide"
52	13	"is paralyzed" should be "is to paralyze him"
54	9	"piece" should be "tube"
59	23	"form" should be "foam"
61	2	"form" should be "foam"
63	1-2	"mask spectrum" should be "mass spectrometer"
63	2	"monoxide" should be "dioxide"
63	9	" mask spectrum" should be "mass spectrometer"
63	10	"title" should be "tidal"
66	2	"title" should be "tidal"
74	13	"mask" should be "mass"
76	5	"anatrope" should be "inotrope"
80	21	"mask" should be "bag"
82	9	"title" should be "tidal"
82	14	"title" should be "tidal"
83	6	"use" should be "lose"
83	7	"title" should be "tidal"
83	16	"epinephrin" should be "epinephrine"
83	18	"title" should be "tidal"
83	22	"title" should be "tidal"
88	17	"title" should be "tidal"
88	18	"wasn't" should be "was"
88	21	"eerie" should be "Erie"
89	11	"title" should be "tidal"
90	14	"give" should be "gave"
90	15	"epinephrin" should be "epinephrine"
90	between lines 16-17	the transcript should reflect that (the doctor's beeper went <i>off</i>)
90	25	"epinephrin" should be "epinephrine"
94	18	"clot" should be "plug"
95	22	"title" should be "tidal"
96	4	"title" should be "tidal"
101	23	" EMD systole" should be " EMD " and then "asystole"
101	25	"epinephrin" should be "epinephrine"

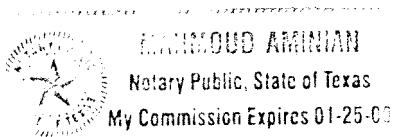
PAGE LINE

CHANGE / CORRECTION

103	2	"Sacka" should be "Salka"
105	12	"anything" should be "any"
116	20	"title" should be "tidal"
117	10	"title" should be "tidal"
126	5	"title" should be "tidal"

ARABA QUANSAH
ARABA QUANSAH, M.D.

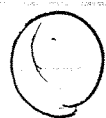
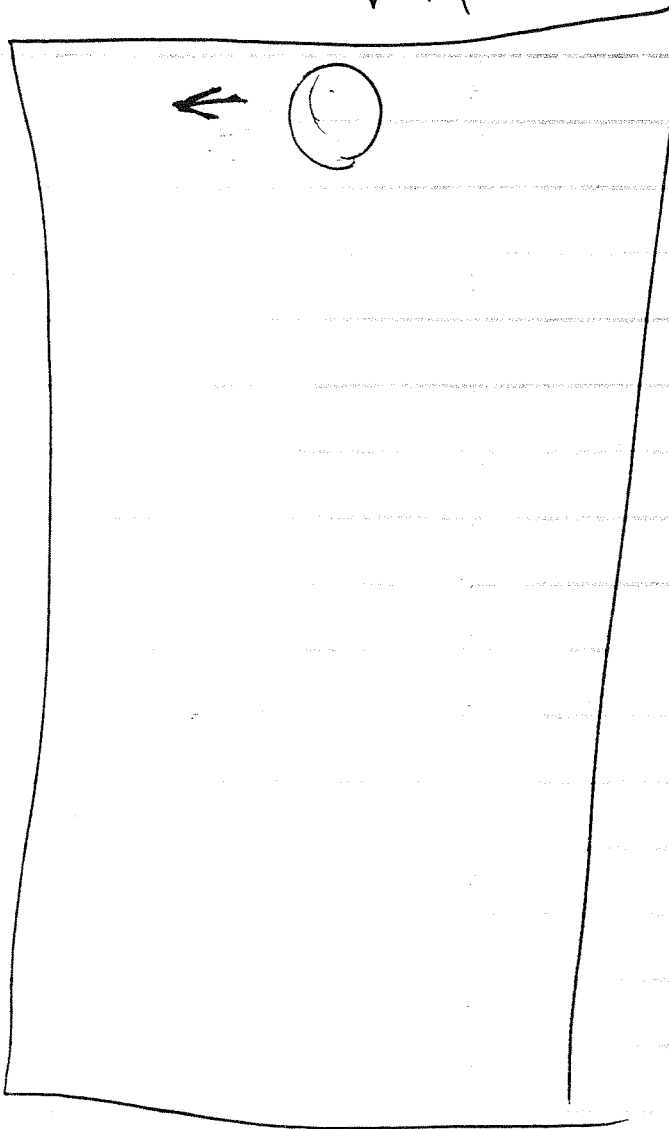
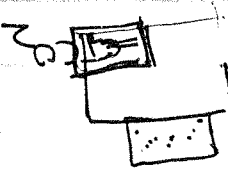
SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me by the said witness on this the ____
day of Feb 1 . 1997.



Mahmoud Aminian
Notary Public



De Quesada



**DEPOSITION
EXHIBIT**
1
De Quesada